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AUTHORITY

X-FACTOR™



11-13-86

HIS MILLIONAIRE PARENTS
NAMED HIM WARREN
WORTHINGTON III. BY BIRTH,
HE WAS AMERICAN ROYALTY...

... BUT IT WAS THE
X-FACTOR IN HIS
GENETIC MAKE-UP
THAT MADE HIM
SPECIAL.

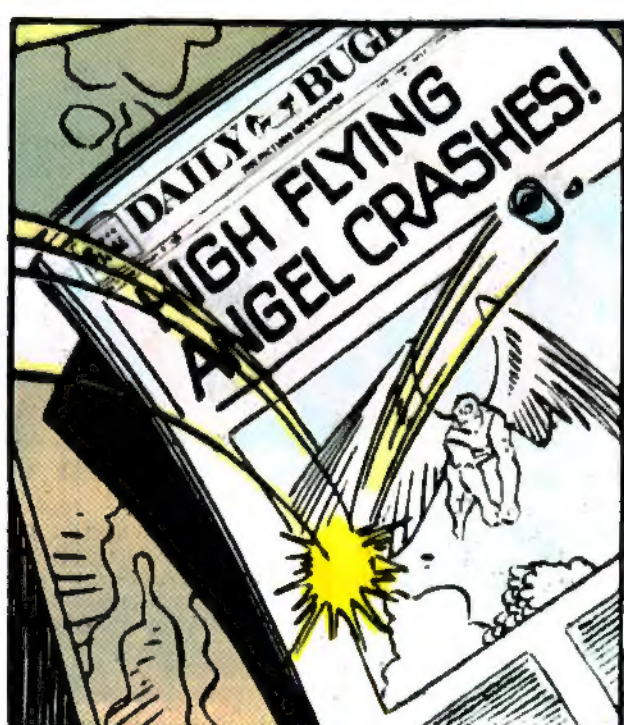
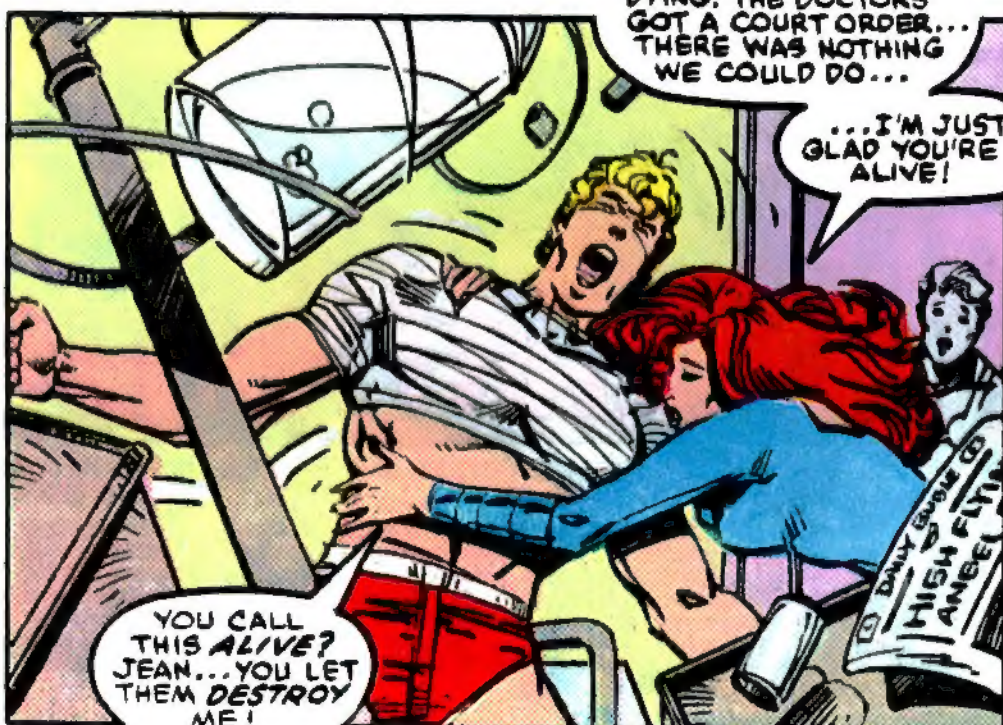
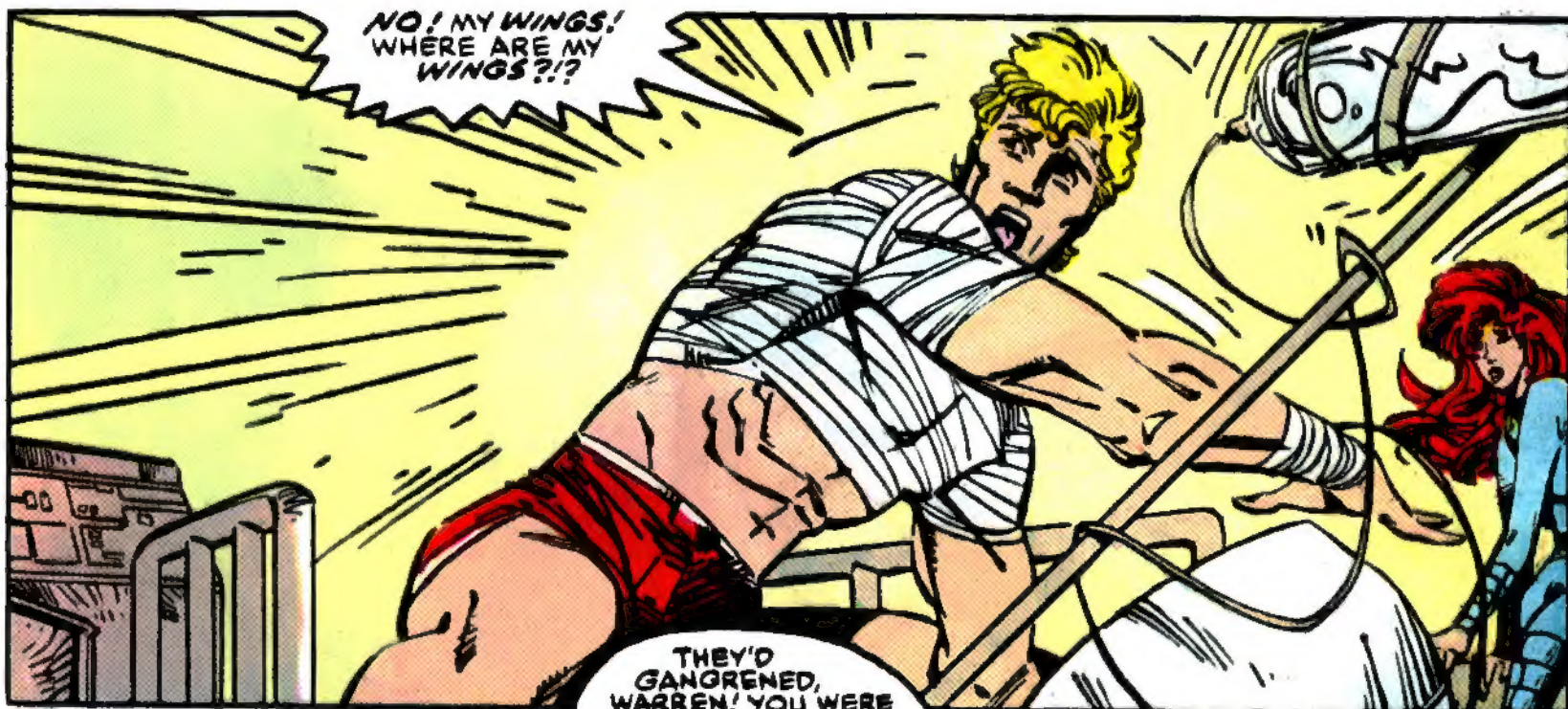
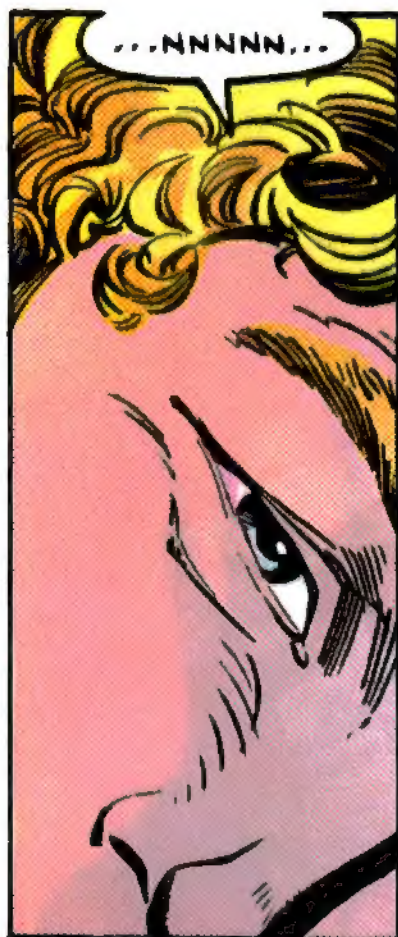
IT GAVE HIM WINGS.
IT LET HIM SOAR.
AND HE CALLED HIM-
SELF THE ANGEL!

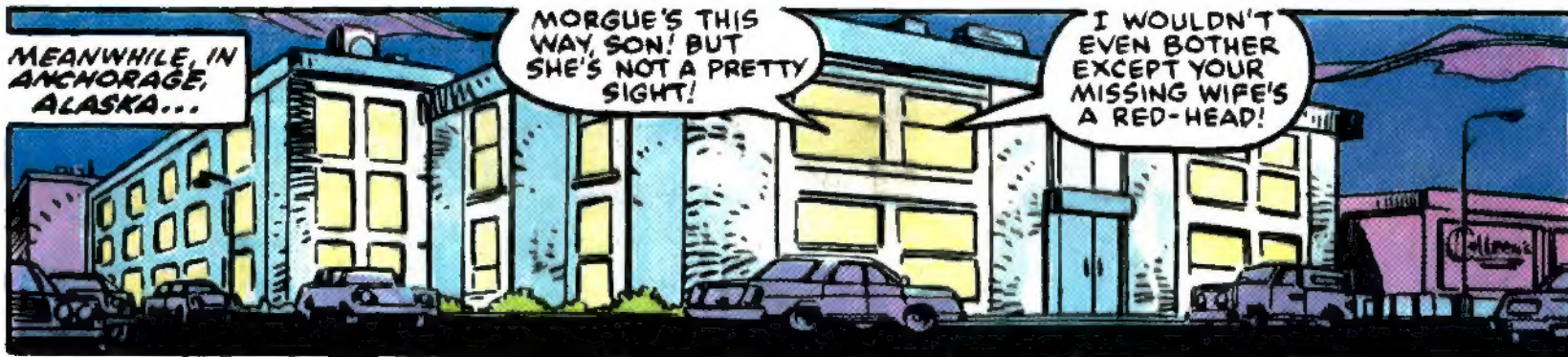
Stan Lee presents

WHOSE DEATH IS IT, ANYWAY?

LOUISE SIMONSON WRITER WALTER SIMONSON PENCILLER BOB WIACEK INKER JOE ROSEN LETTERER PETRA SCOTESI COLORIST BOB HARRAS EDITOR JIM SHOOTER EDITOR IN CHIEF

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MORGUE'S THIS WAY, SON! BUT SHE'S NOT A PRETTY SIGHT!

I WOULDN'T EVEN BOTHER EXCEPT YOUR MISSING WIFE'S A RED-HEAD!



EVEN SO, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL MUCH!

BODY'S SO BADLY DECOMPOSED, POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION WILL BE PRETTY NEAR IMPOSSIBLE!

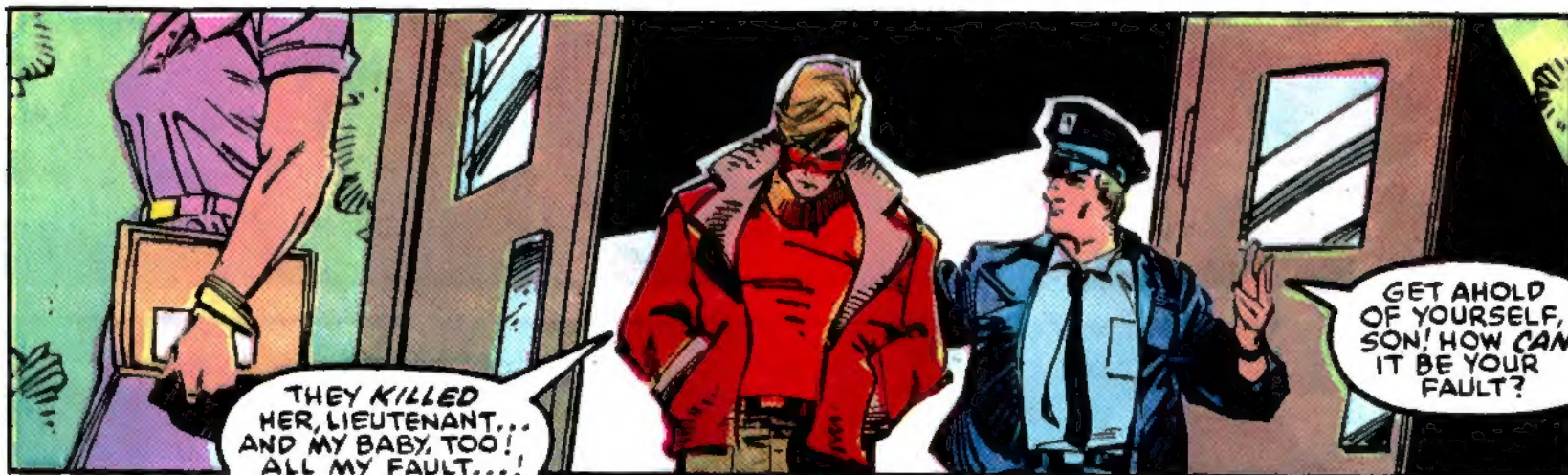
IT'S OKAY, LIEUTENANT. I'VE SEEN BODIES BEFO--!



NO! THAT ISN'T MADDIE... IT CAN'T BE! ONLY...



...ONLY... IT IS... ISN'T IT?



THEY KILLED HER, LIEUTENANT... AND MY BABY, TOO! ALL MY FAULT...!

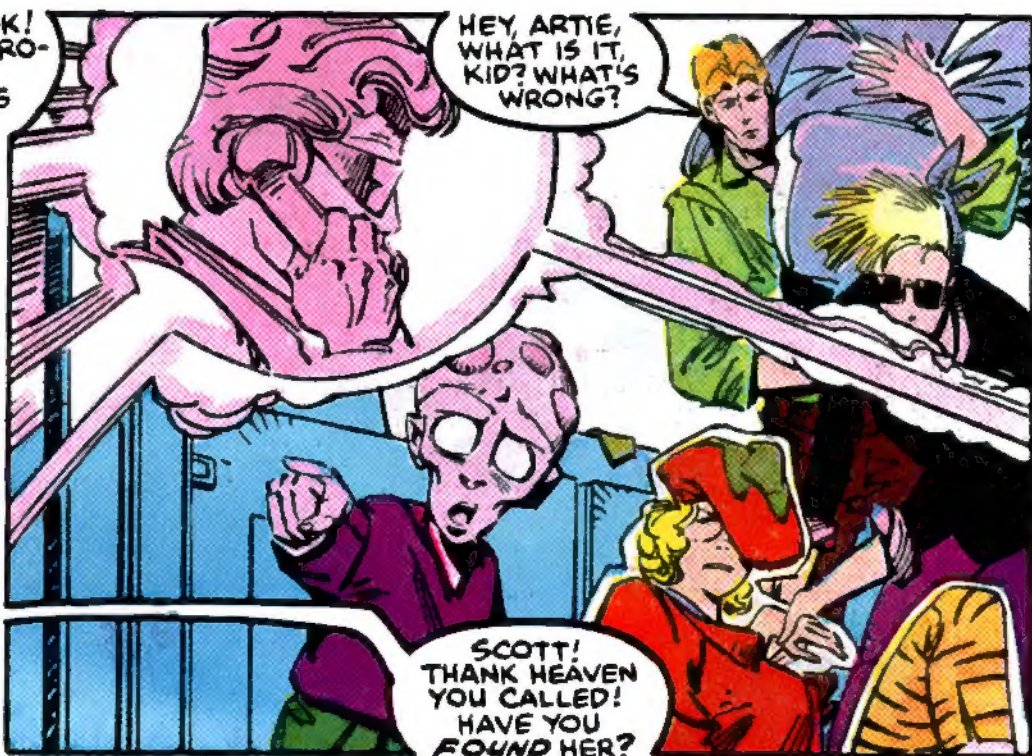
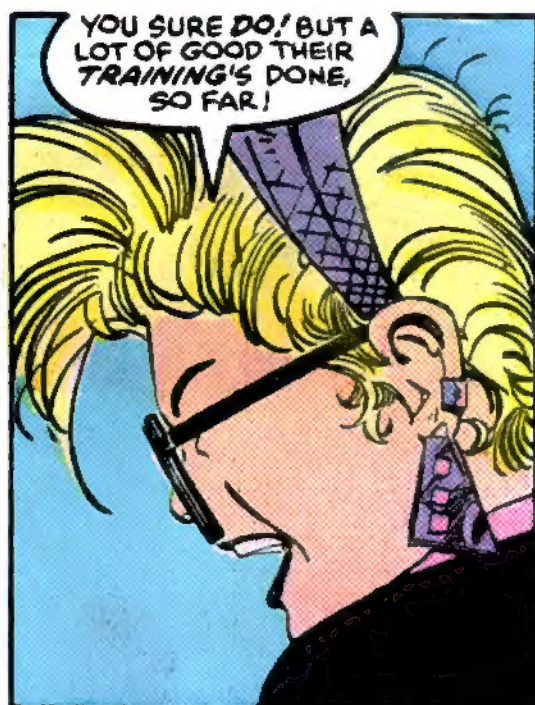
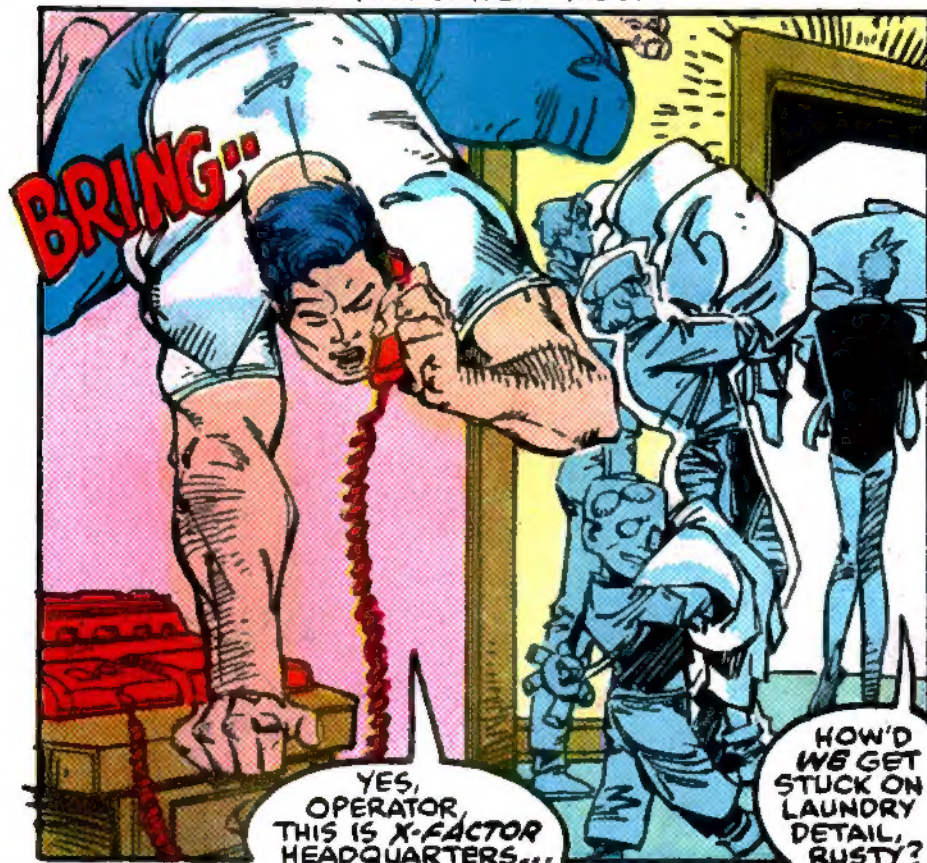
GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF, SON! HOW CAN IT BE YOUR FAULT?



I SHOULD'VE BEEN HERE! AND NOW I'VE GOT TO STAY!

FIND WHOEVER DID THIS... DO TO THEM WHAT THEY DID TO HER!

"I'VE GOT FRIENDS IN NEW YORK, LIEUTENANT, PEOPLE I WORK WITH, THEY'LL HELP ME..."



WHAT? I'M SORRY,
SCOTT! REALLY SORRY!
IS THERE ANYTHING
ANY OF US CAN DO?

I WISH
WE COULD,
SCOTT,
BUT RIGHT
NOW...

IT'S WARREN!
NO...IT'S WORSE
THAN THAT! SCOTT,
THEY CUT OFF HIS
WINGS!

THEY
WHAT?

THEY
CAN'T!

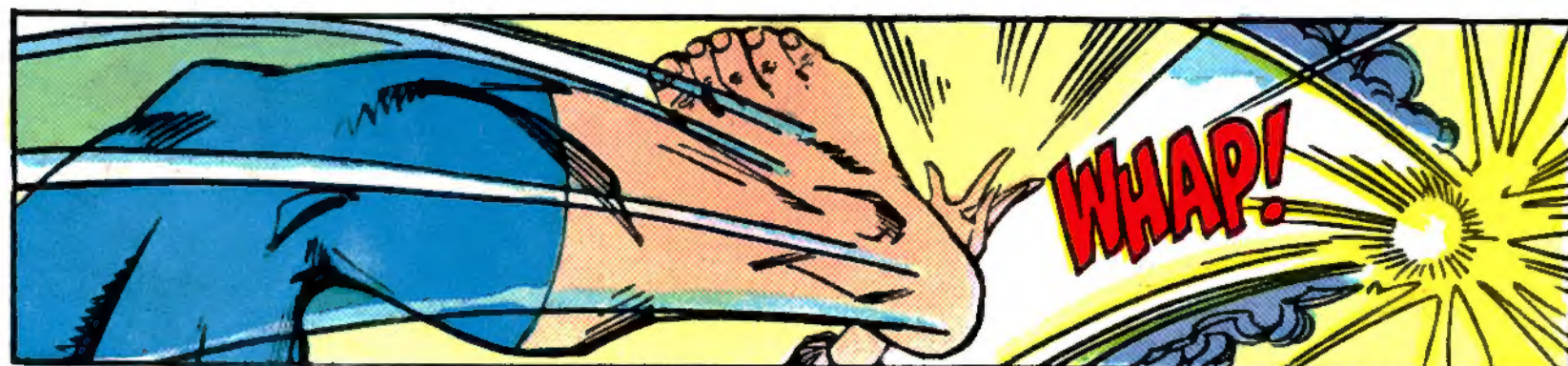
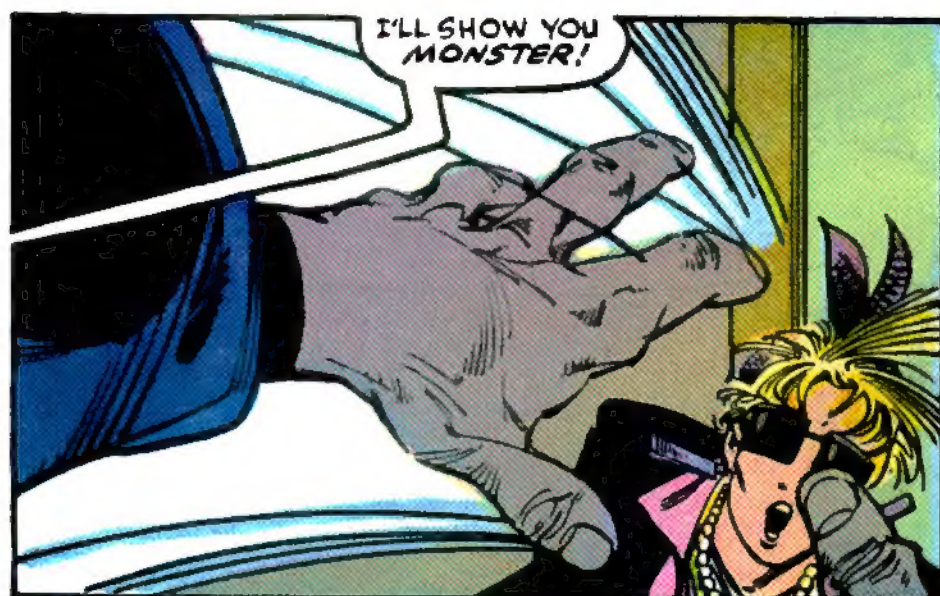
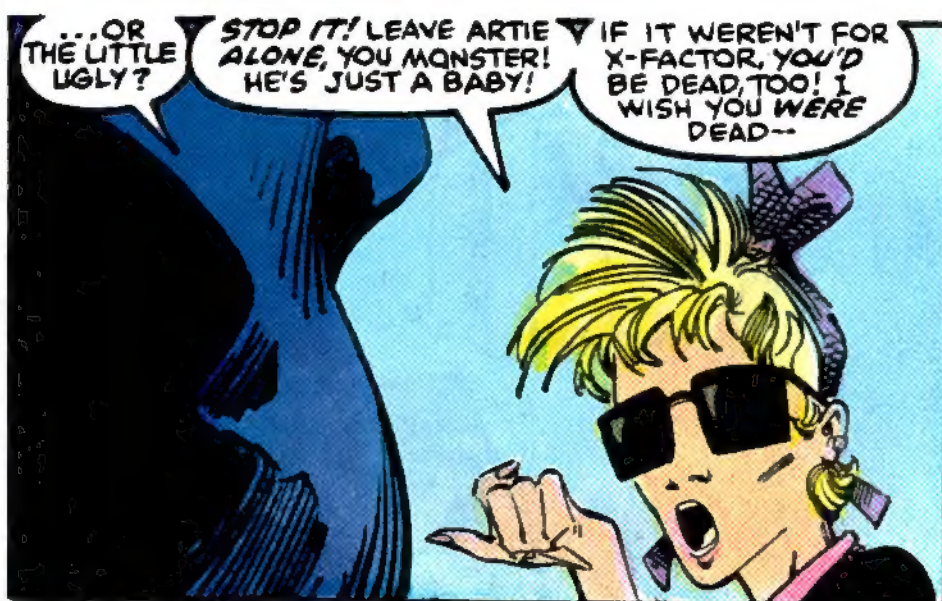
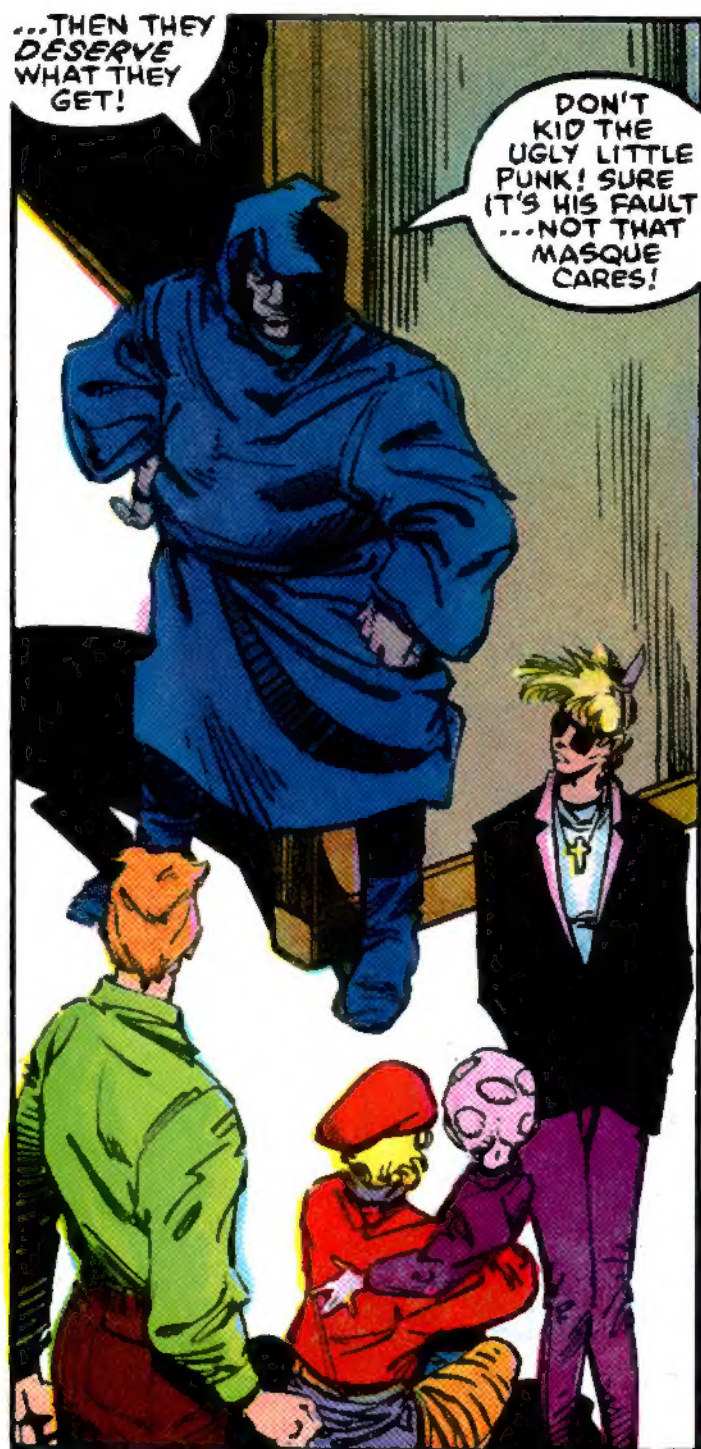
OH,
YUCK!

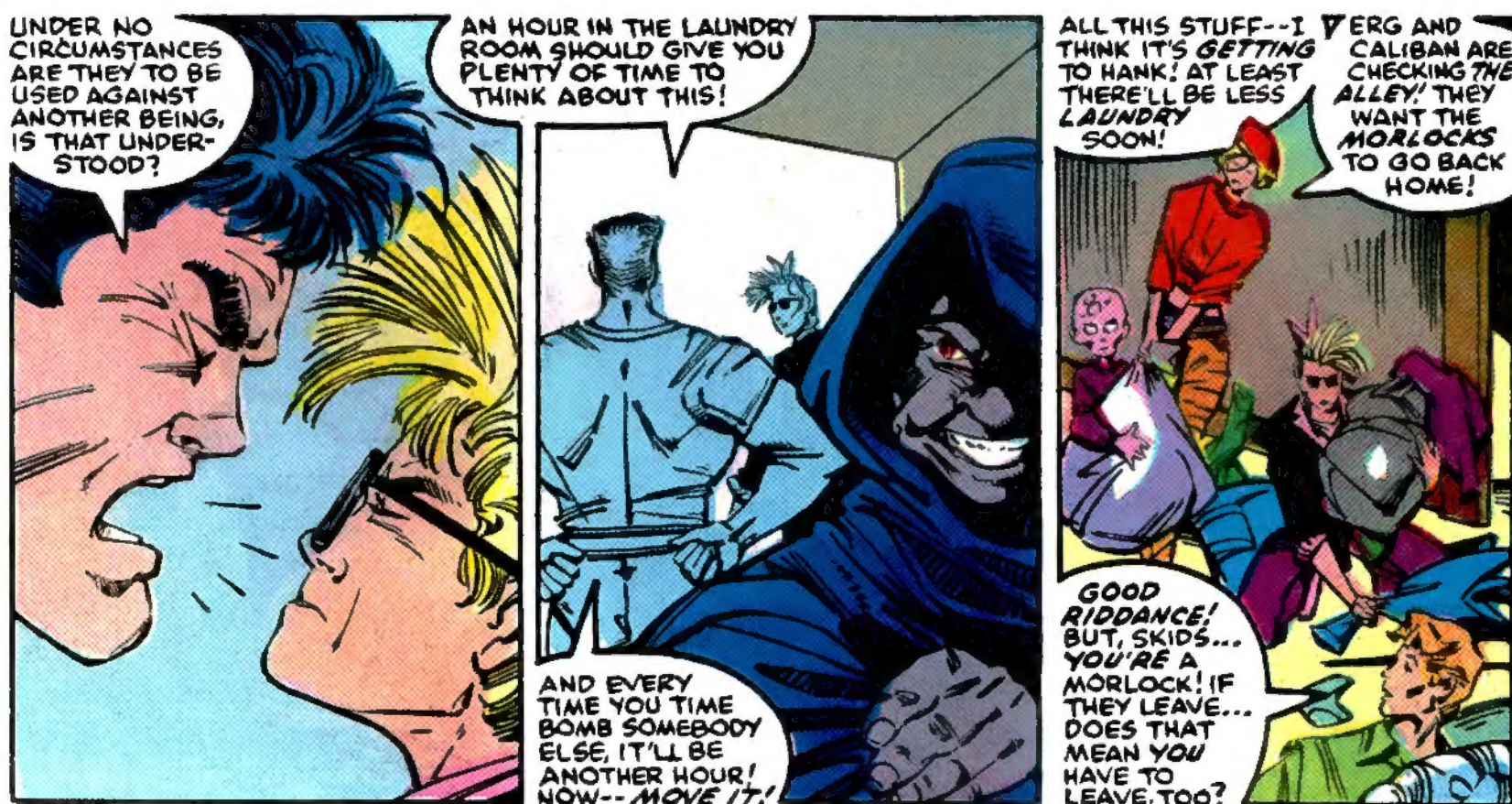
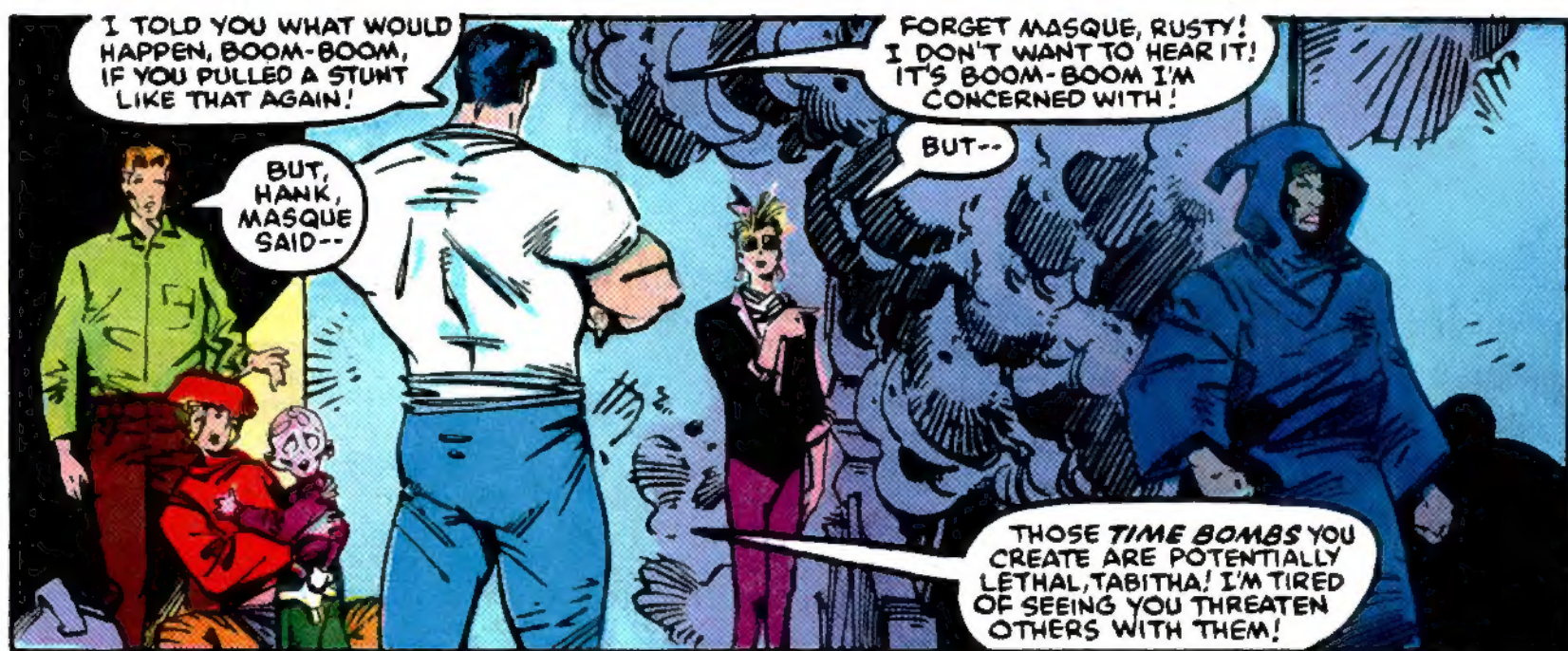
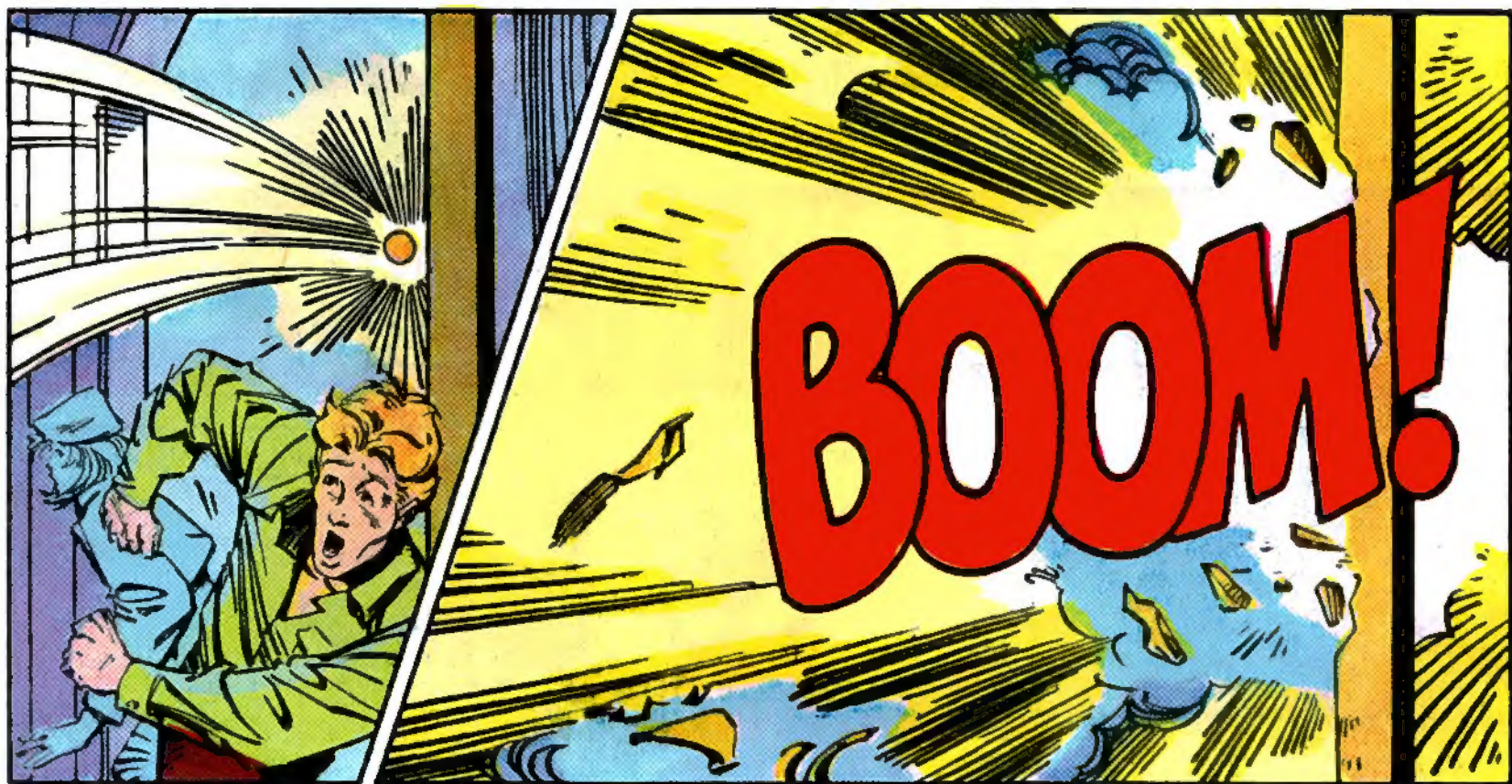
NO! ARTIE,
COME HERE!
LISTEN TO
ME!

IT'S NOBODY'S FAULT,
ARTIE! IT'S LIKE RUSTY
ALWAYS SAYS! SAVING
MUTANTS IS WHAT
X-FACTOR'S FOR!

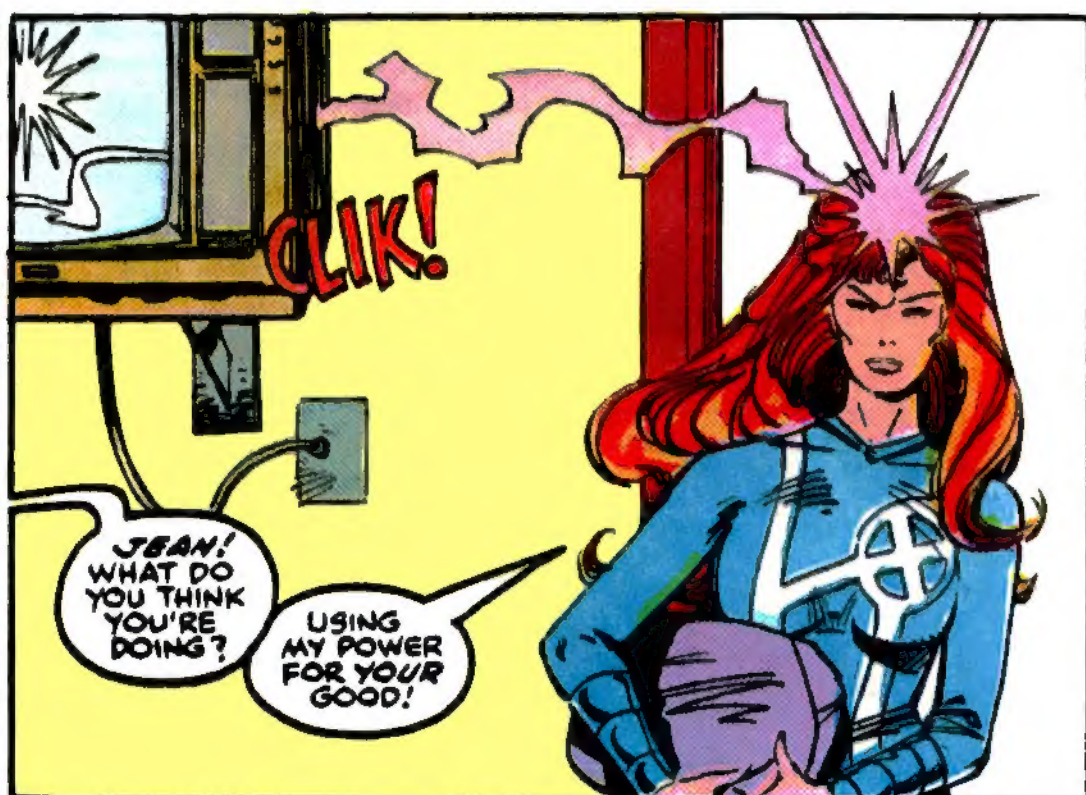
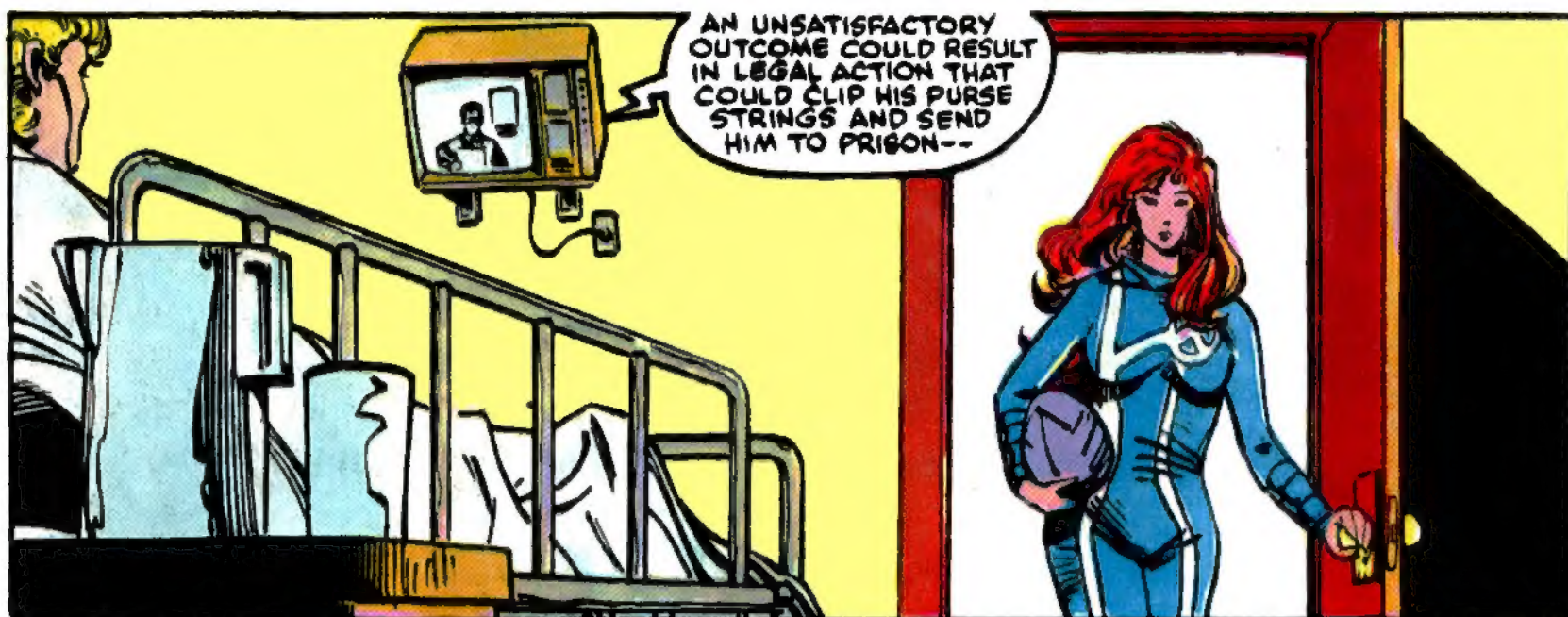
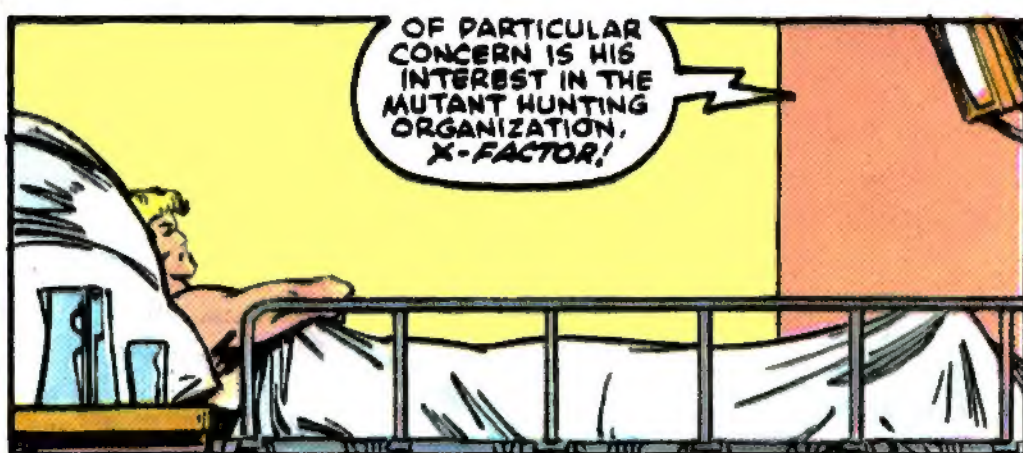
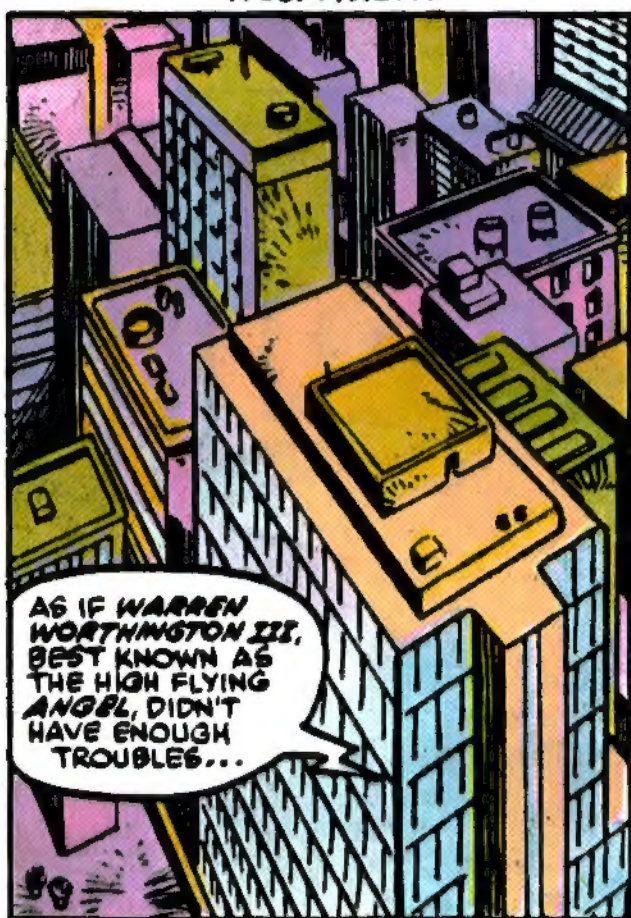
AND IF
THEY GET
HURT...

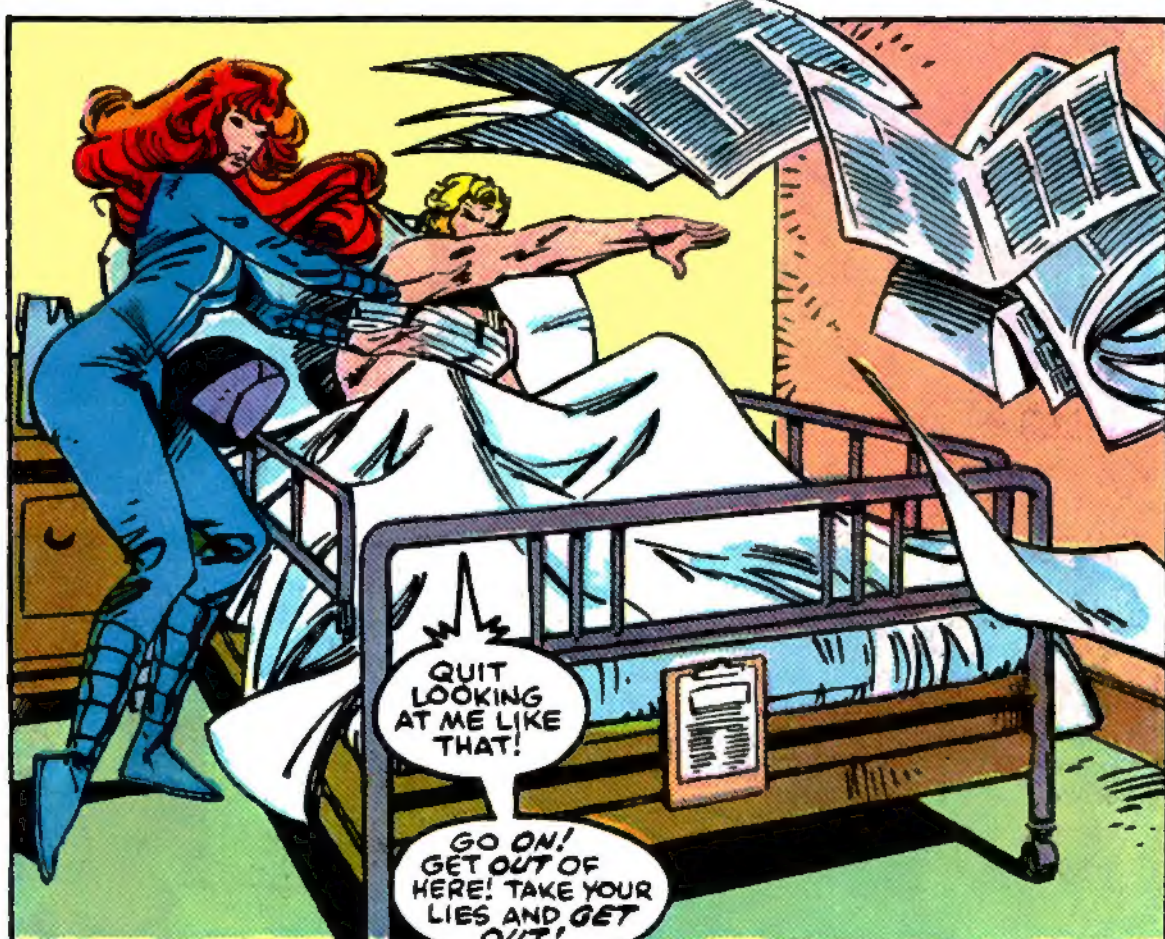
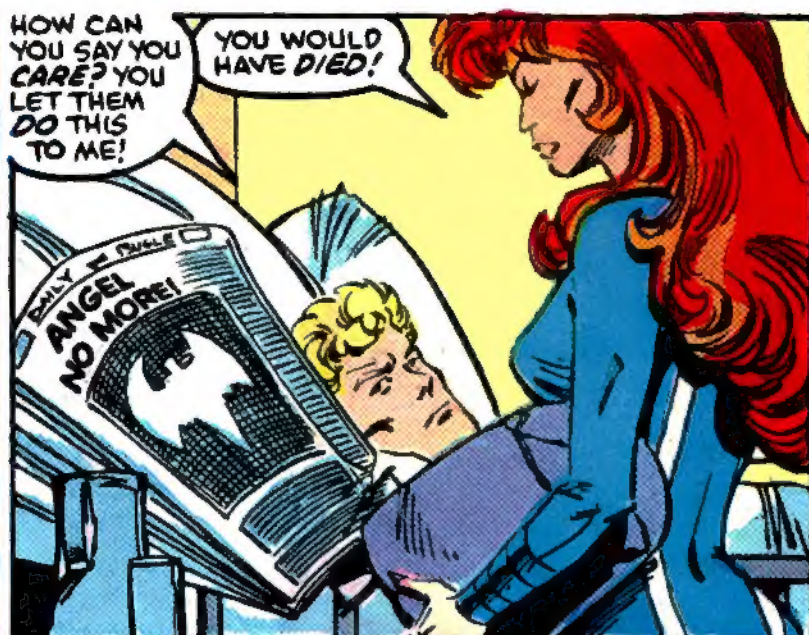
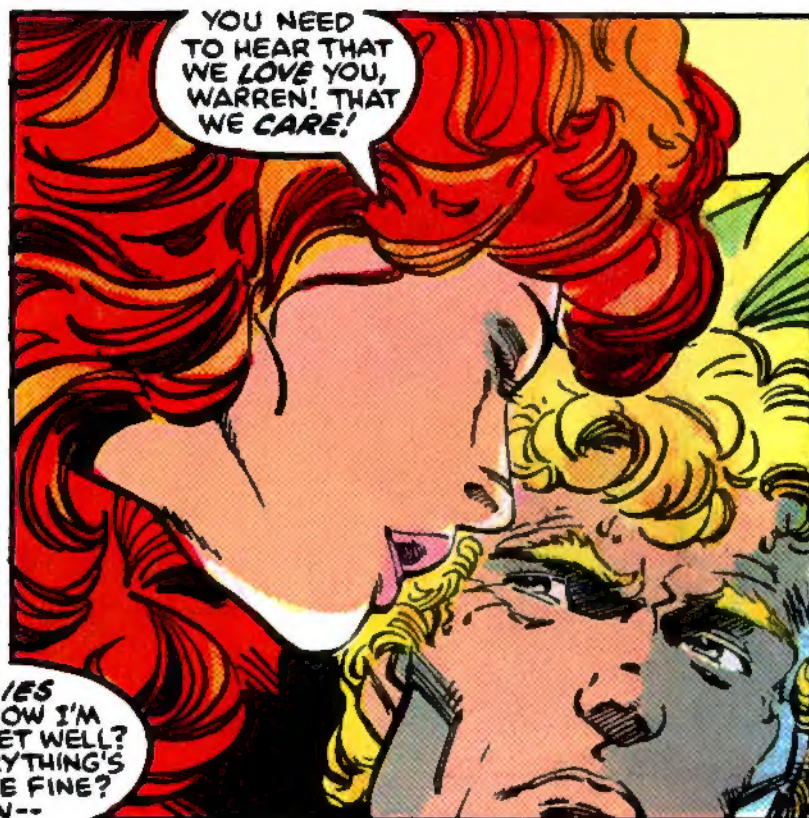
I KNOW
ANGEL WAS HURT
SAVING YOU, BUT
IT'S NOT YOUR
FAULT!

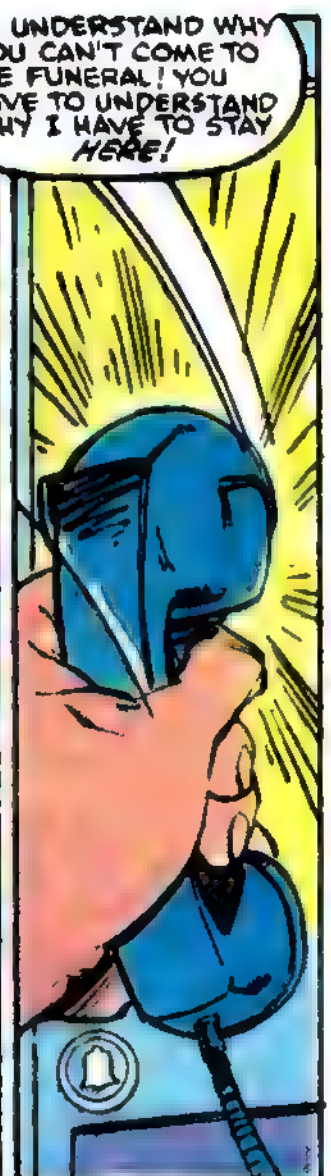
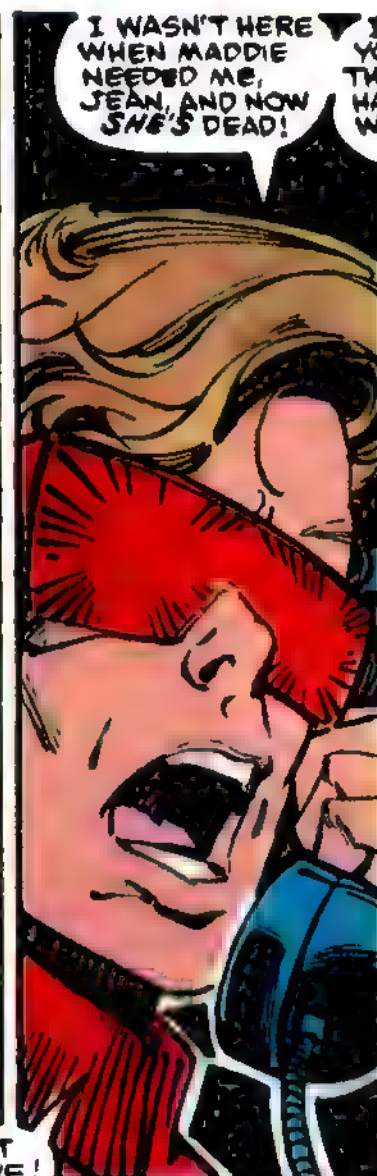
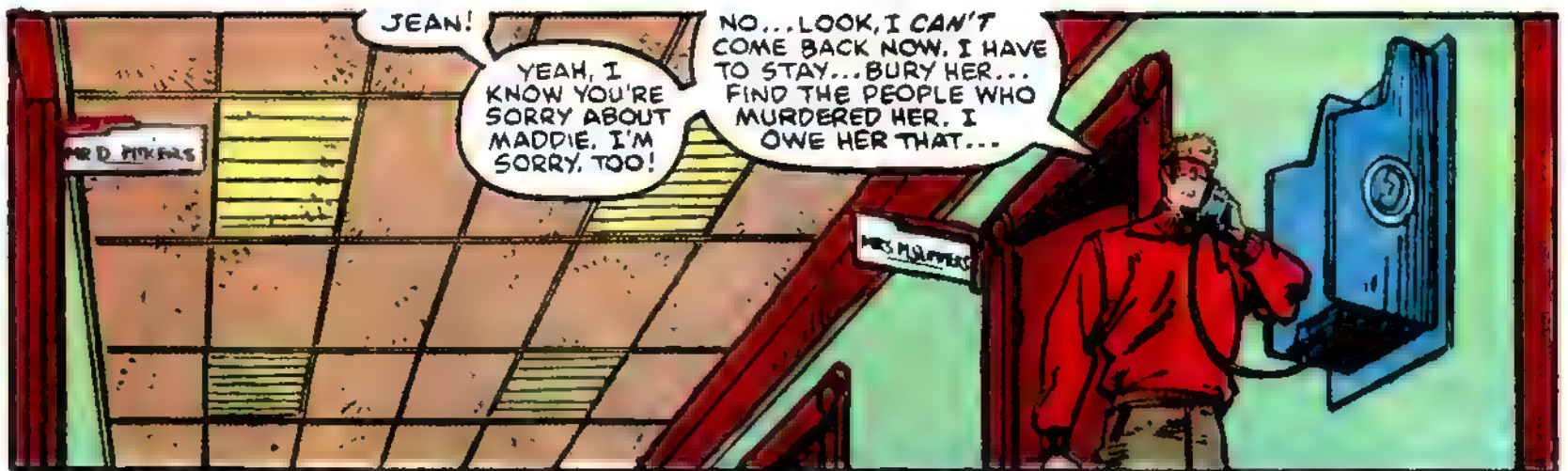
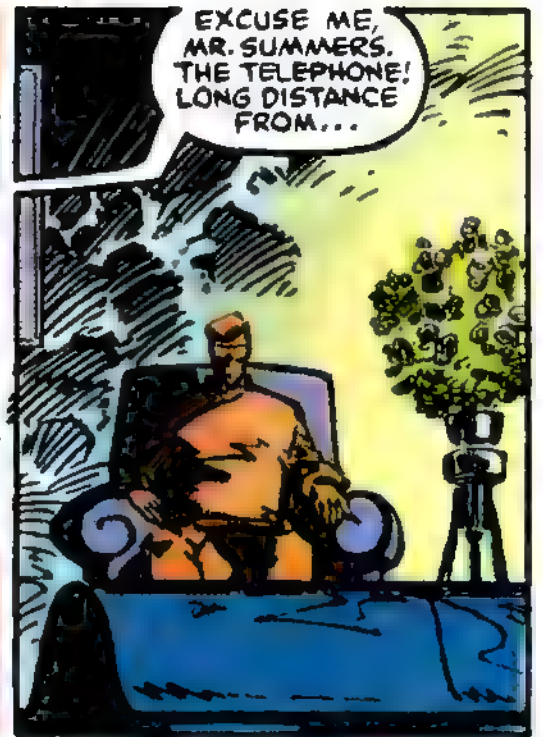




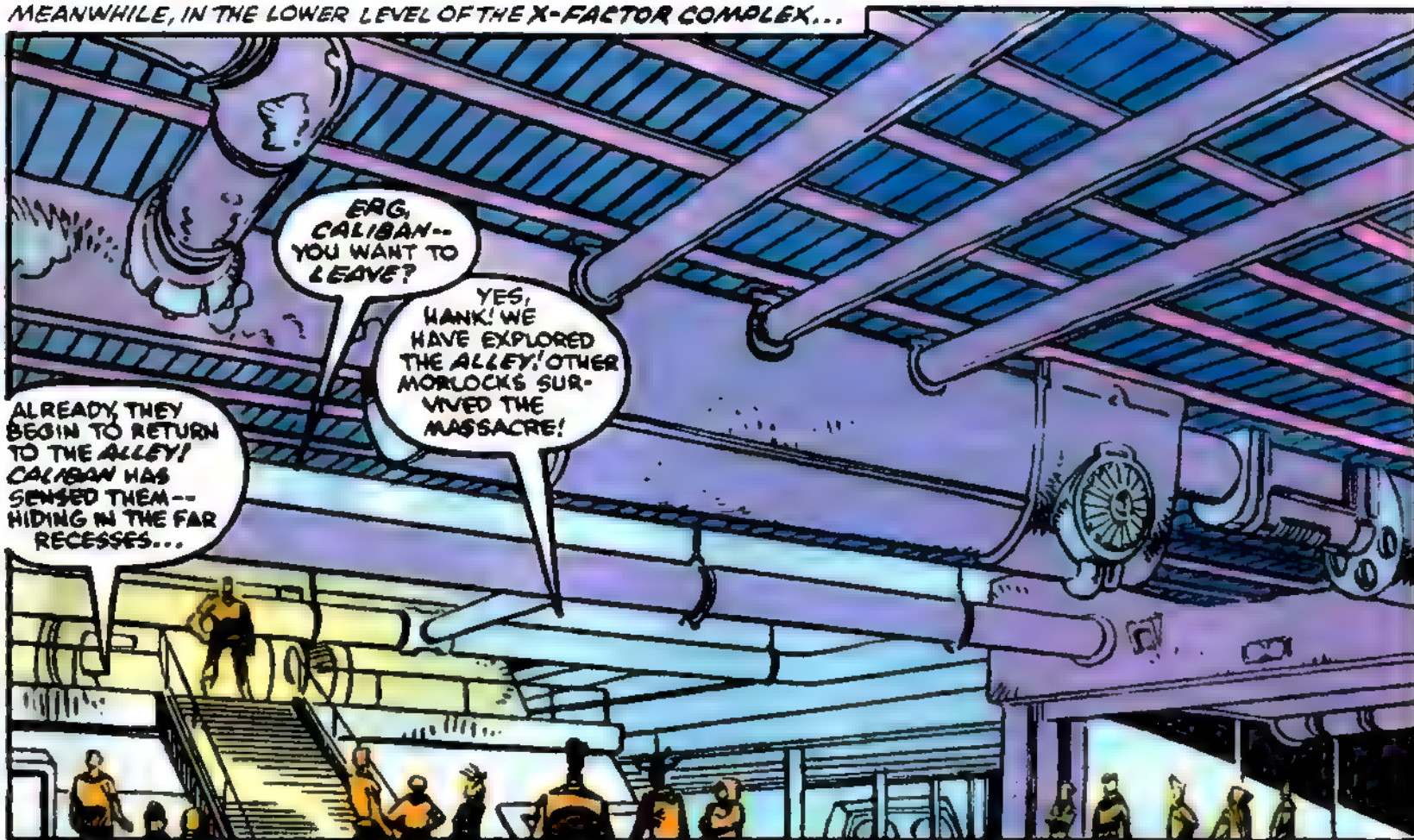
SEVERAL DAYS LATER, AT ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL...







MEANWHILE, IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE X-FACTOR COMPLEX...



ERG, CALIBAN-- YOU WANT TO LEAVE?

YES, HANK! WE HAVE EXPLORED THE ALLEY! OTHER MORLOCKS SURVIVED THE MASSACRE!

ALREADY, THEY BEGIN TO RETURN TO THE ALLEY! CALIBAN HAS SENSED THEM-- HIDING IN THE FAR RECESSES...



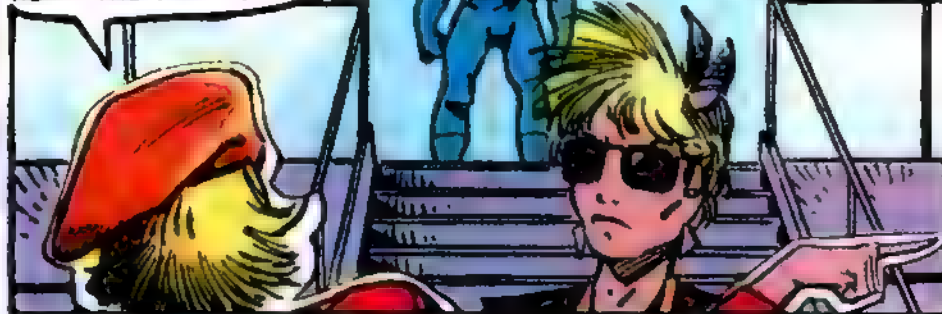
THEN BRING THEM HERE! THEY'LL BE SAFE... PROTECTED--

THE WAY BOOM-BOOM WAS PROTECTED?

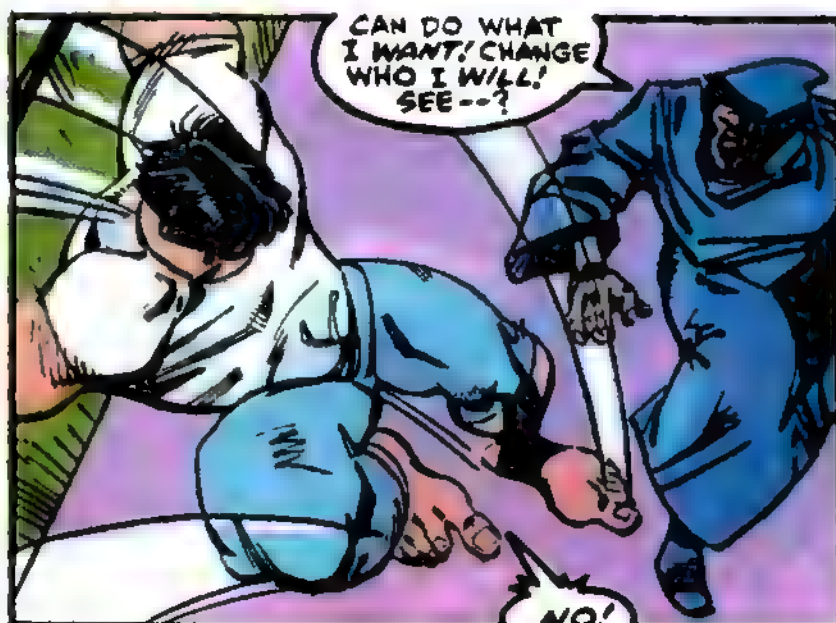
IT WASN'T FAIR THE WAY YOU PUNISHED HER, HANK! MASQUE ATTACKED HER... TRIED TO CHANGE HER FACE!

SHE WAS DEFENDING HERSELF, BUT YOU WERE SO INTO PICKING ON HER, YOU DIDN'T WANNA HEAR THE TRUTH!

MASQUE--?

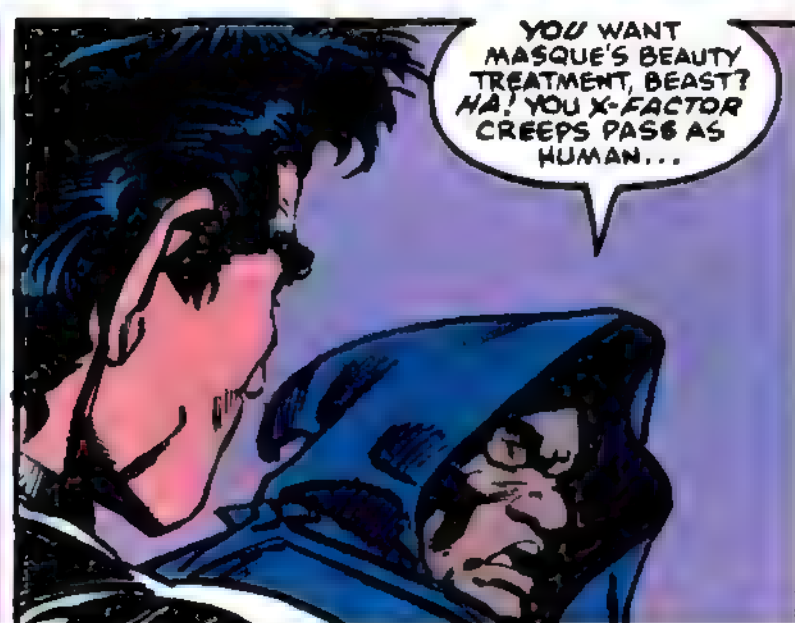


SO WHAT? I AM MORLOCK! X-FACTOR CAN'T COMMAND ME!

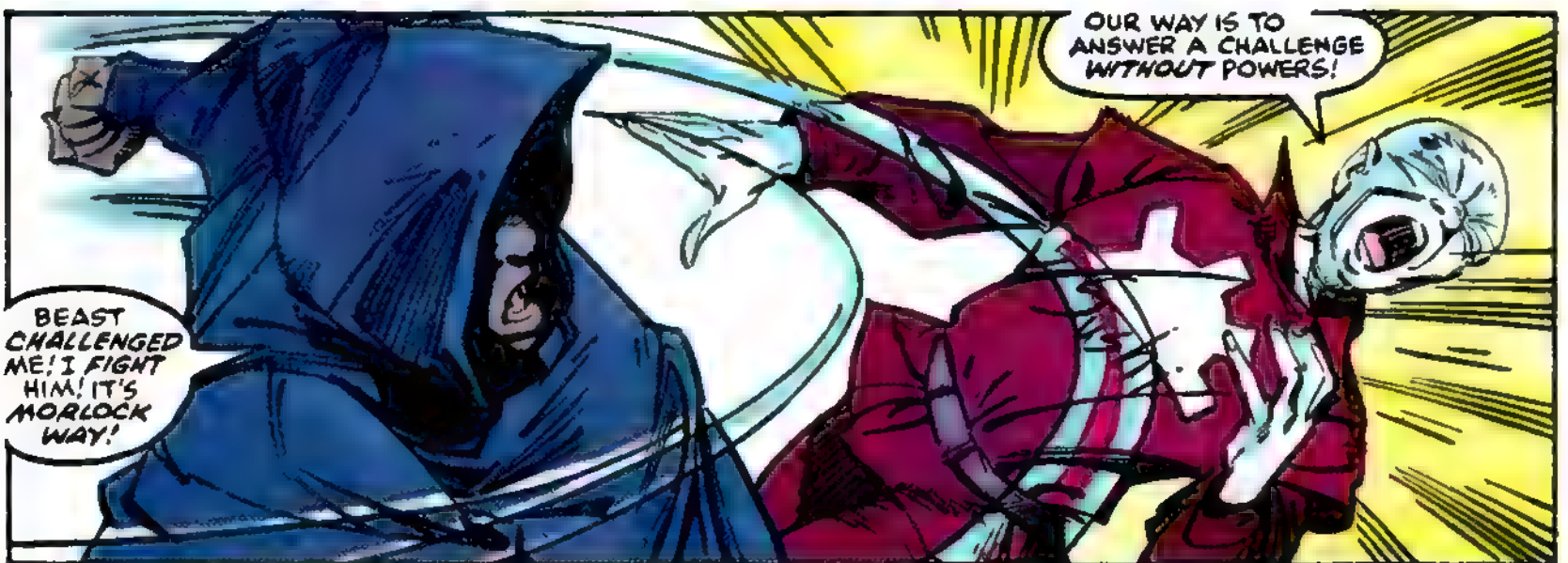
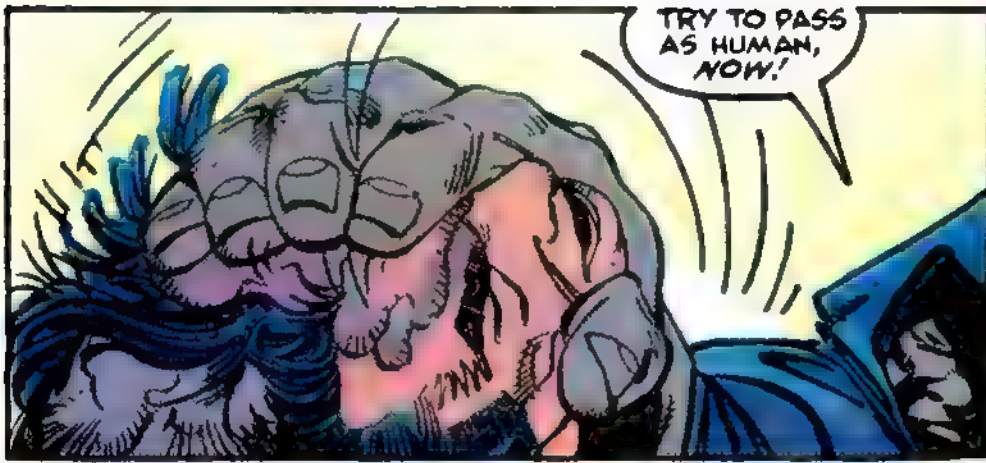


CAN DO WHAT I WANT! CHANGE WHO I WILL! SEE--?

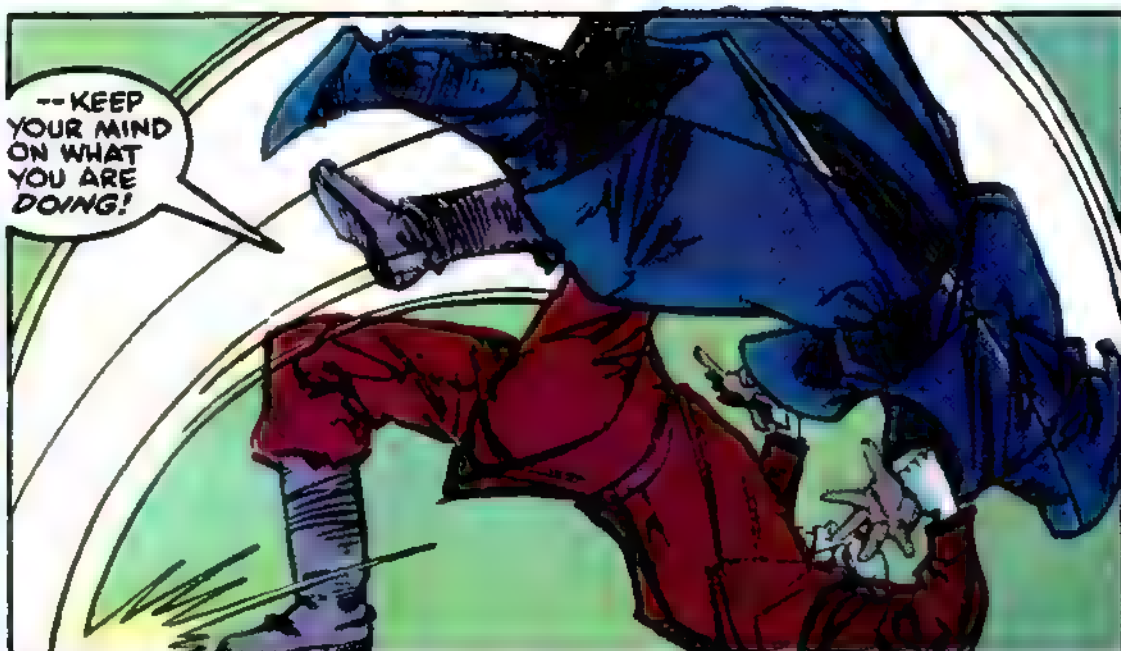
NO!

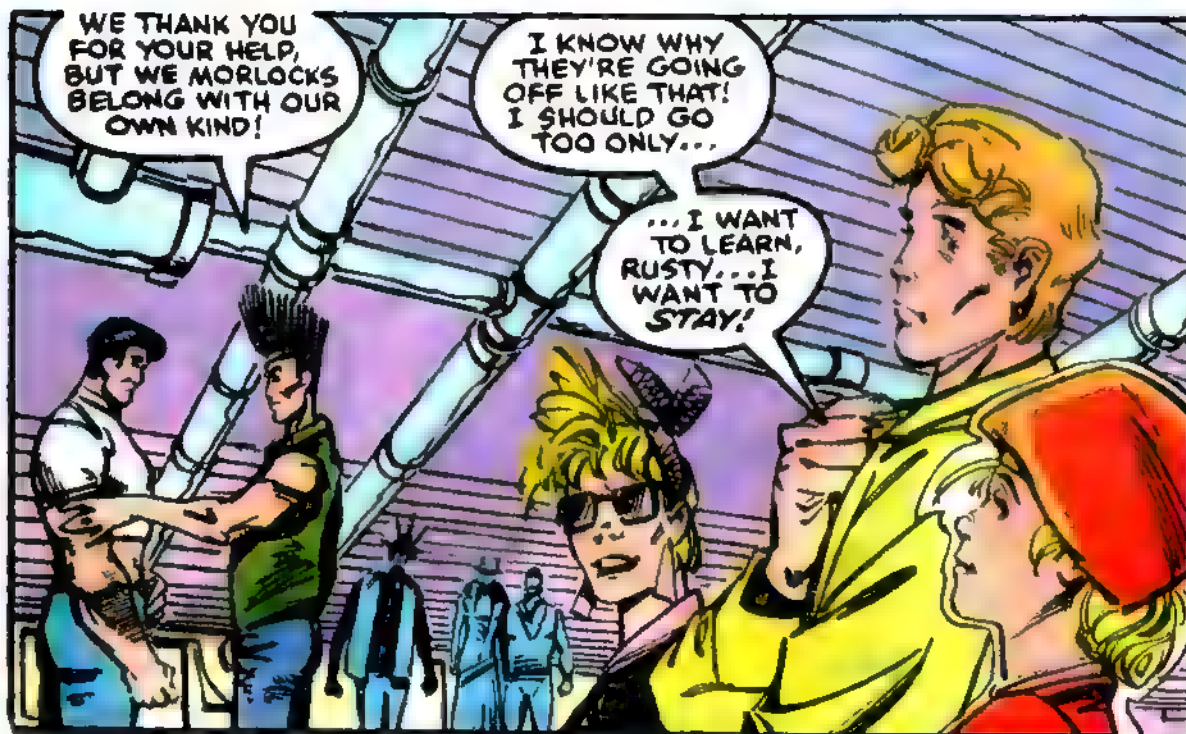


YOU WANT MASQUE'S BEAUTY TREATMENT, BEAST? HA! YOU X-FACTOR CREEPS PASS AS HUMAN...



CALIBAN WILL FIGHT MASQUE-- WITHOUT POWERS... AND WHEN HE WINS, MASQUE MUST RESTORE BEAST!





WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, BUT WE MORLOCKS BELONG WITH OUR OWN KIND!

I KNOW WHY THEY'RE GOING OFF LIKE THAT! I SHOULD GO TOO ONLY...

...I WANT TO LEARN, RUSTY... I WANT TO STAY!

MEANWHILE, IN A GRAVE-YARD IN NORTHERN ANCHORAGE...



MADDIE... IT WAS BAD THESE LAST FEW MONTHS...



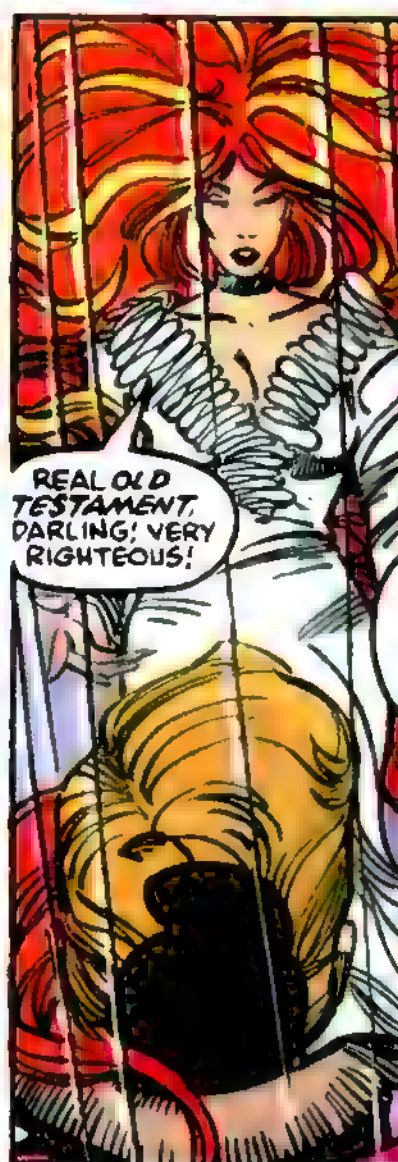
...I ALMOST WISHED YOU WERE DEAD... SO I WOULDN'T HAVE TO CHOOSE--



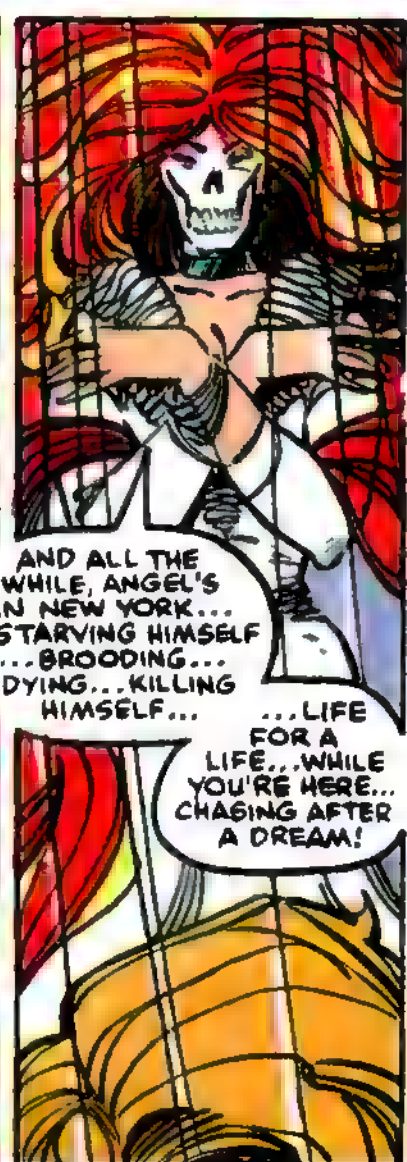
ME OR JEAN, HUH? TOUGH PROBLEM, DARLING?

YEAH... LOOK, I KNOW YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT... THAT IT DOESN'T CHANGE THINGS, BUT I DIDN'T MEAN IT...

I LOVED YOU... YOU AND THE BABY... I'LL KILL THEM FOR MURDERING YOU!

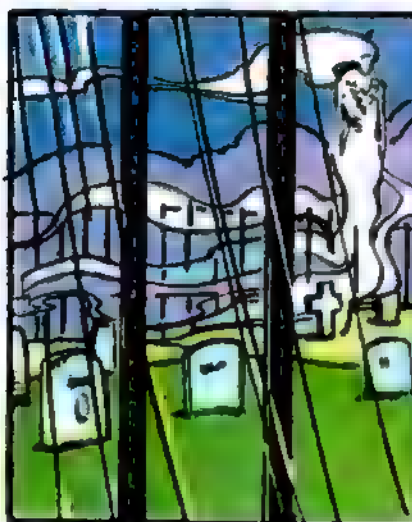


REAL OLD TESTAMENT, DARLING! VERY RIGHTEOUS!



AND ALL THE WHILE, ANGEL'S IN NEW YORK... STARVING HIMSELF... BROODING... DYING... KILLING HIMSELF...

...LIFE FOR A LIFE... WHILE YOU'RE HERE... CHASING AFTER A DREAM!



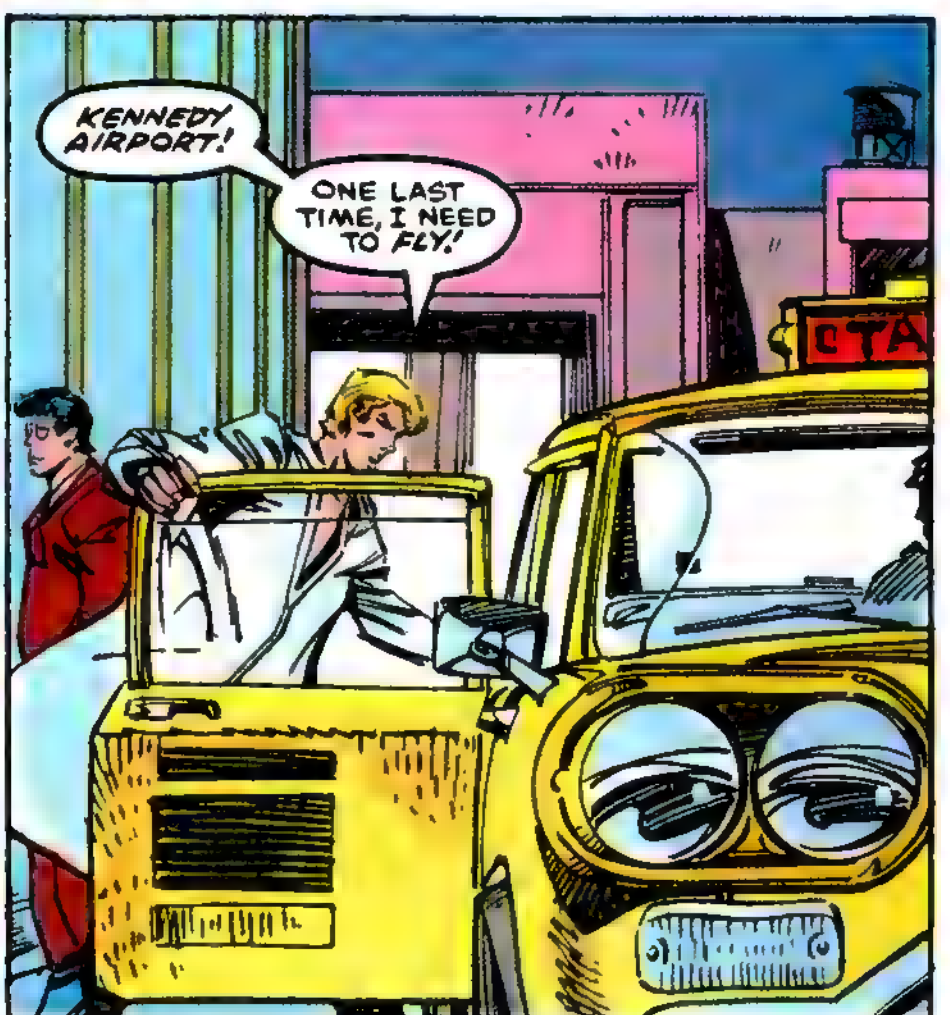
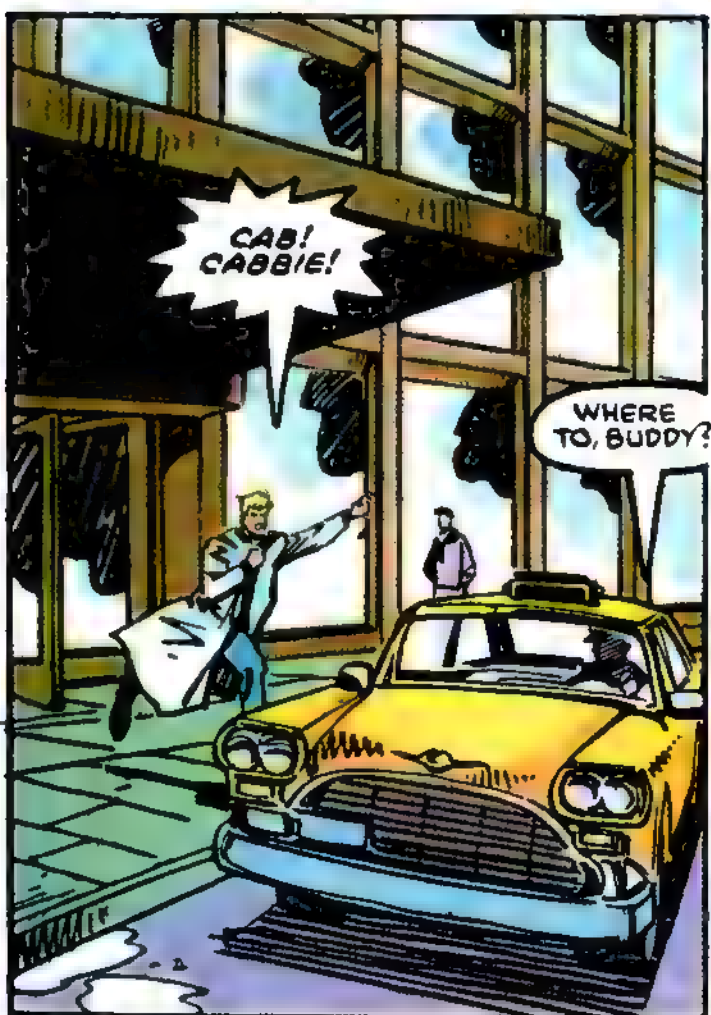
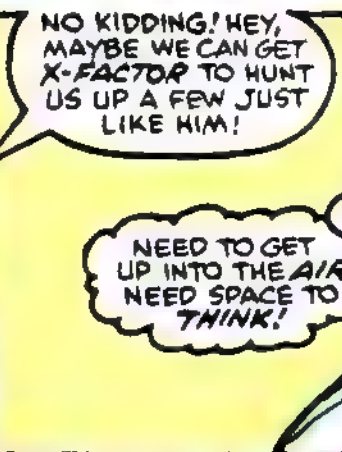
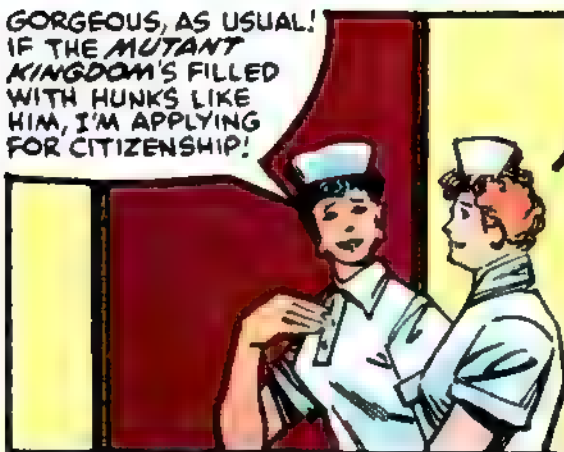
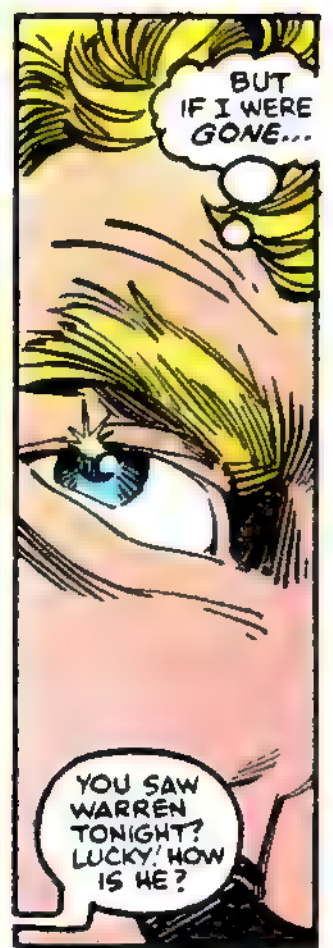
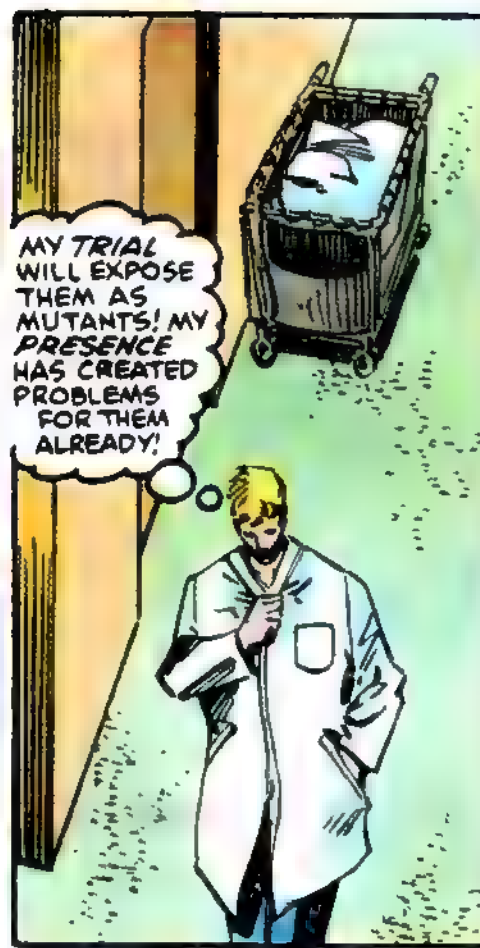
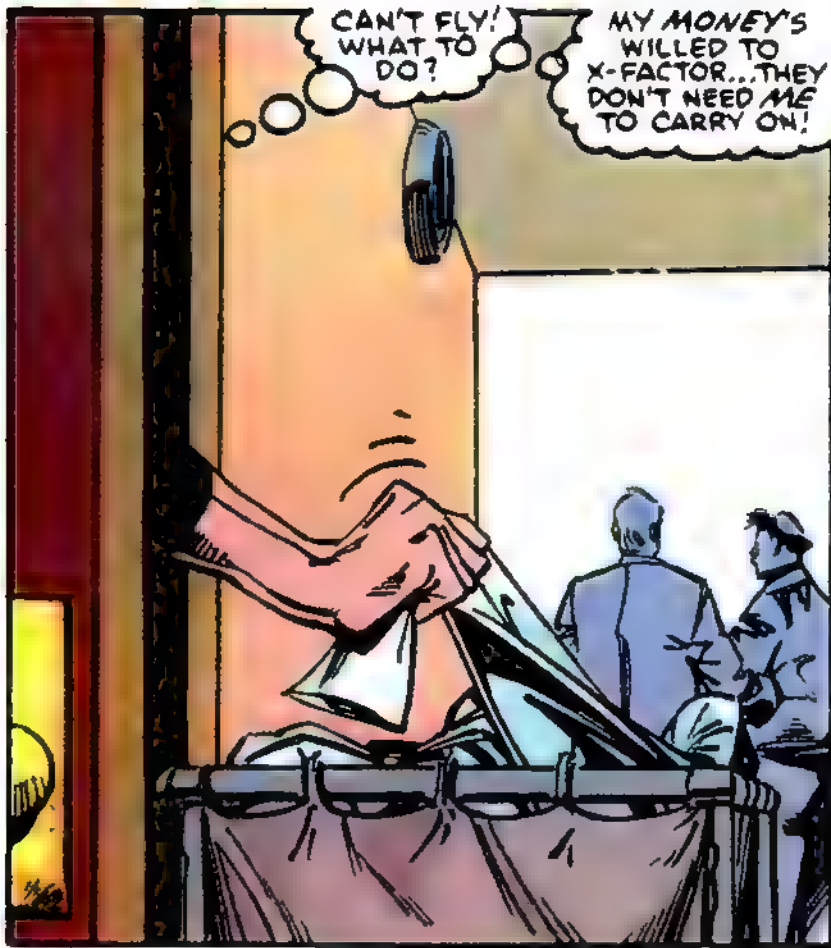
KILLING HIMSELF?

NO, ANGEL'S ALIVE! JEAN'S WATCHING HIM! HE HAS TO BE ALIVE!

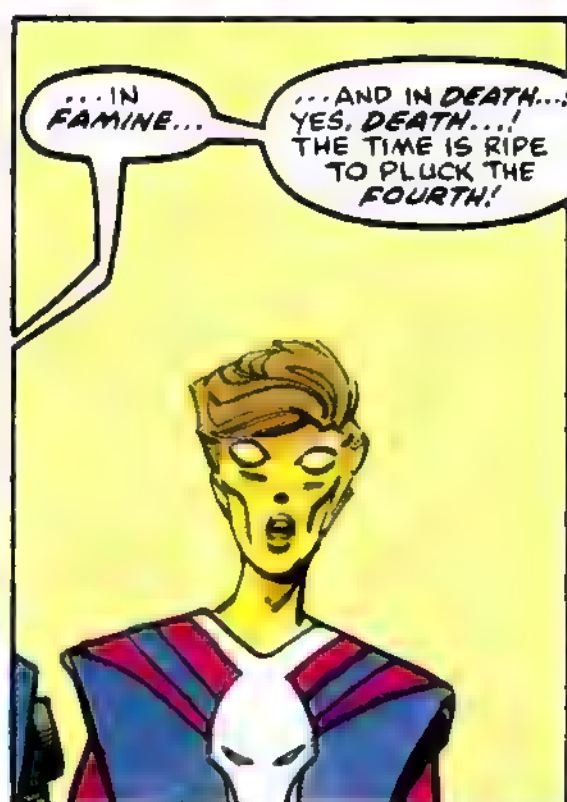
HE HAS TO BE!

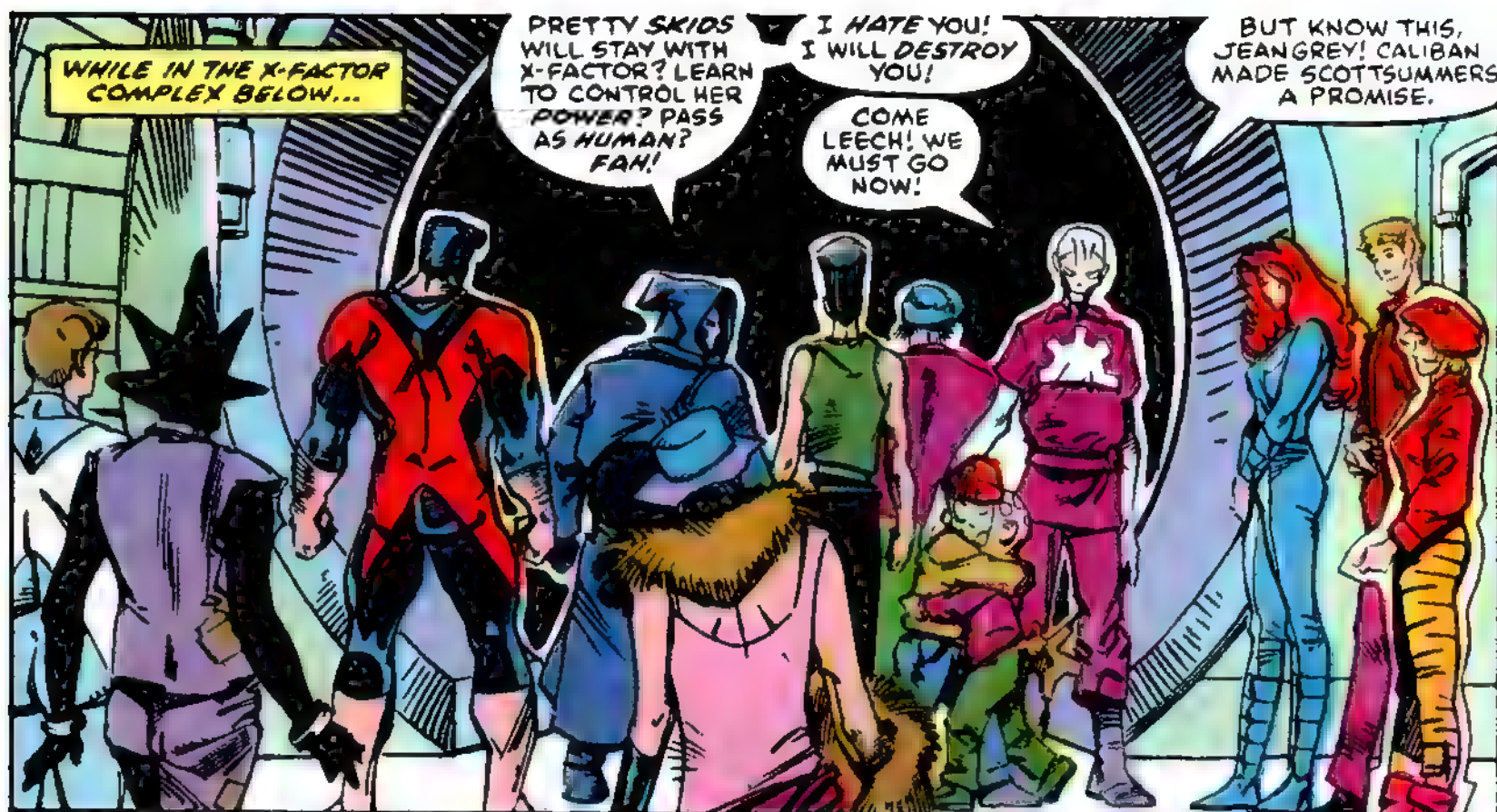
THAT NIGHT. ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL...





WHILE A HALF-MILE OVER MANHATTAN, A MENACING PLATFORM HOVERS, CLOAKED FROM BOTH HUMAN AND MECHANICAL SENSES...



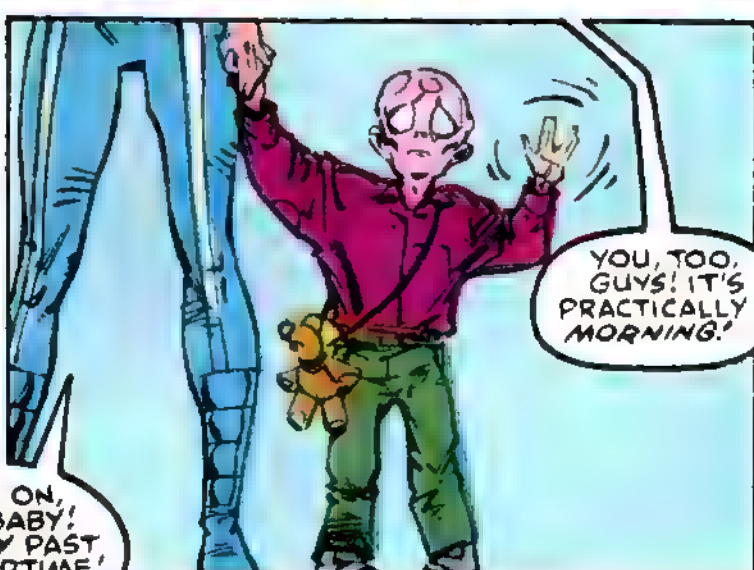


PRETTY SKIDS
WILL STAY WITH
X-FACTOR? LEARN
TO CONTROL HER
POWER? PASS
AS HUMAN?
FAN!

I HATE YOU!
I WILL DESTROY
YOU!

COME
LEECH! WE
MUST GO
NOW!

BUT KNOW THIS,
JEANGREY! CALIBAN
MADE SCOTT SUMMERS
A PROMISE.



CALIBAN WILL
RETURN!

YOU, TOO,
GUYS! IT'S
PRACTICALLY
MORNING!

COME ON,
ARTIE BABY!
IT'S WAY PAST
YOUR BEDTIME!



WE SAVED THEM, BOBBY
... KNOCKED OURSELVES OUT
TO PROTECT THEM...! SO
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE
SUCH A FAILURE...?

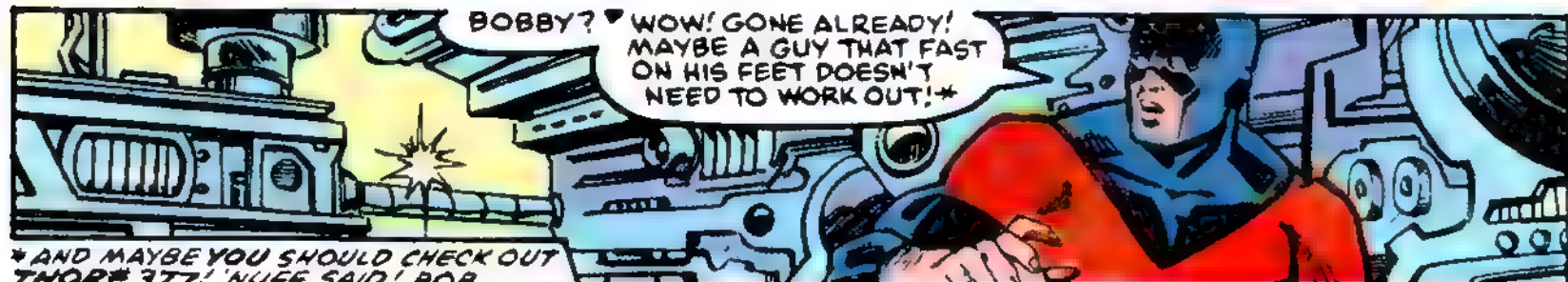
NO POINT
IN GOING TO BED TONIGHT!
AT LEAST SCOTT'LL BE HOME
IN A FEW HOURS! HEY,
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO
A QUICK WORK OUT?

LISTEN, HANK! SO
MUCH HAS HAPPENED
... TO ANGEL AND
SCOTT AND STUFF...
I'M WONDERING...
MAYBE MASQUE
WAS RIGHT ABOUT
US.



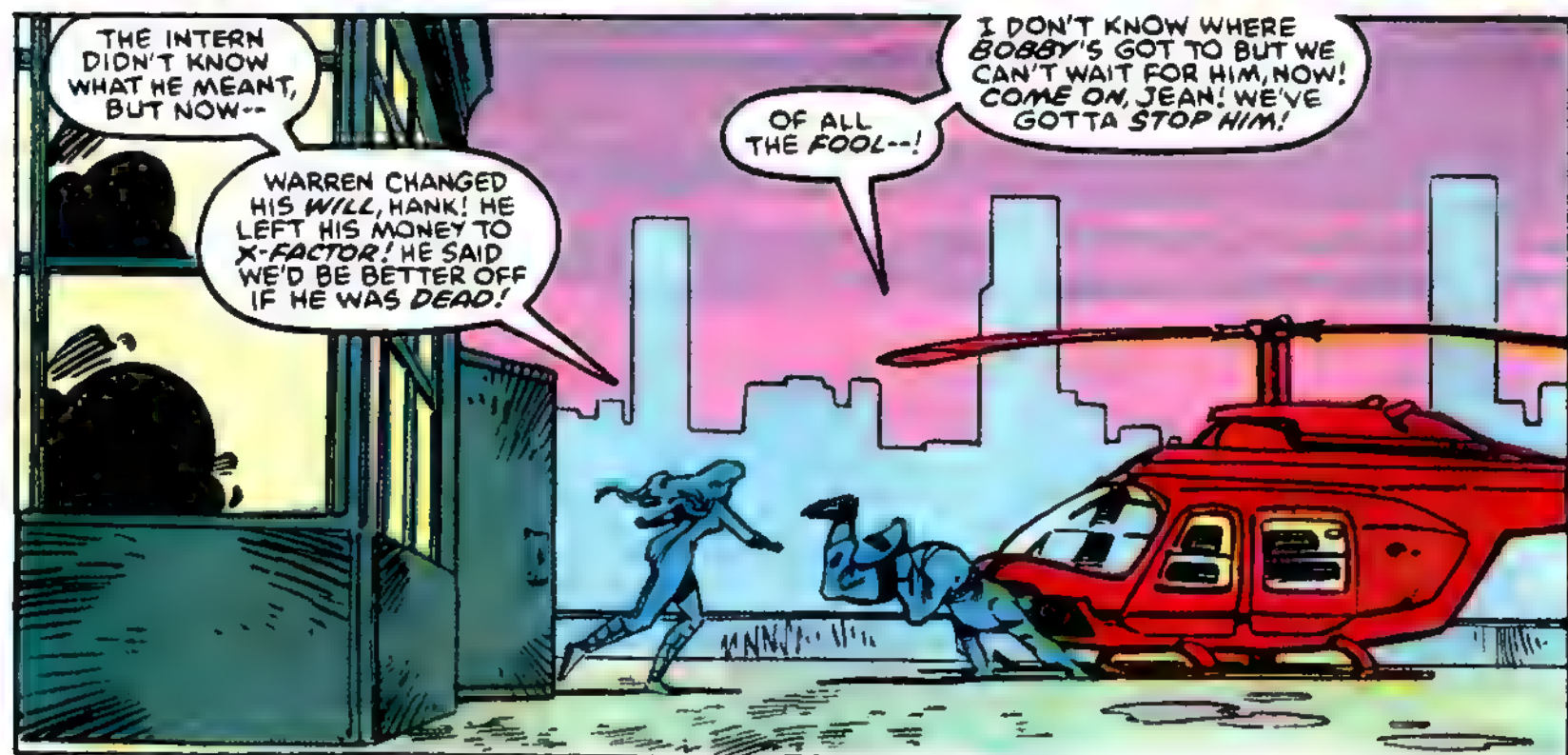
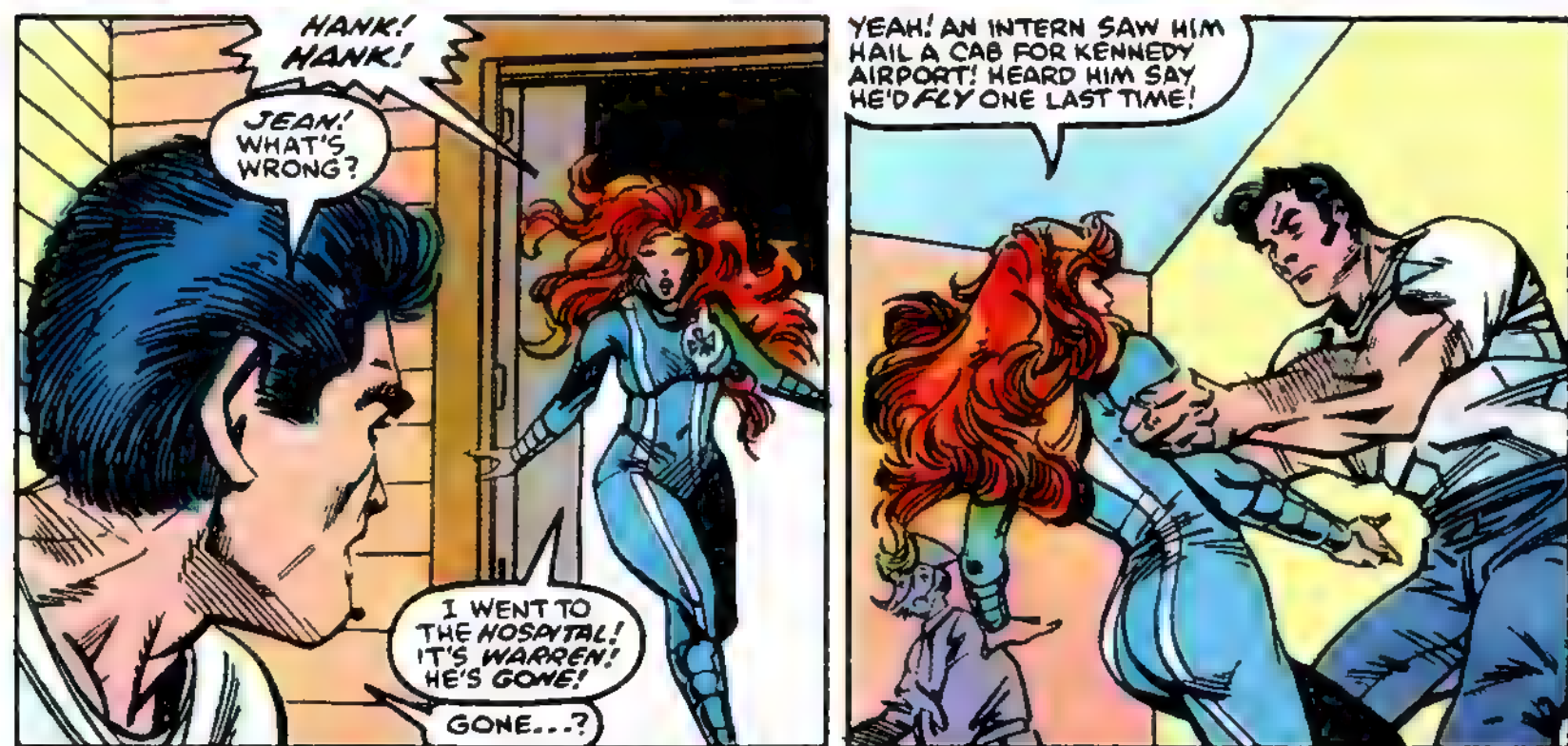
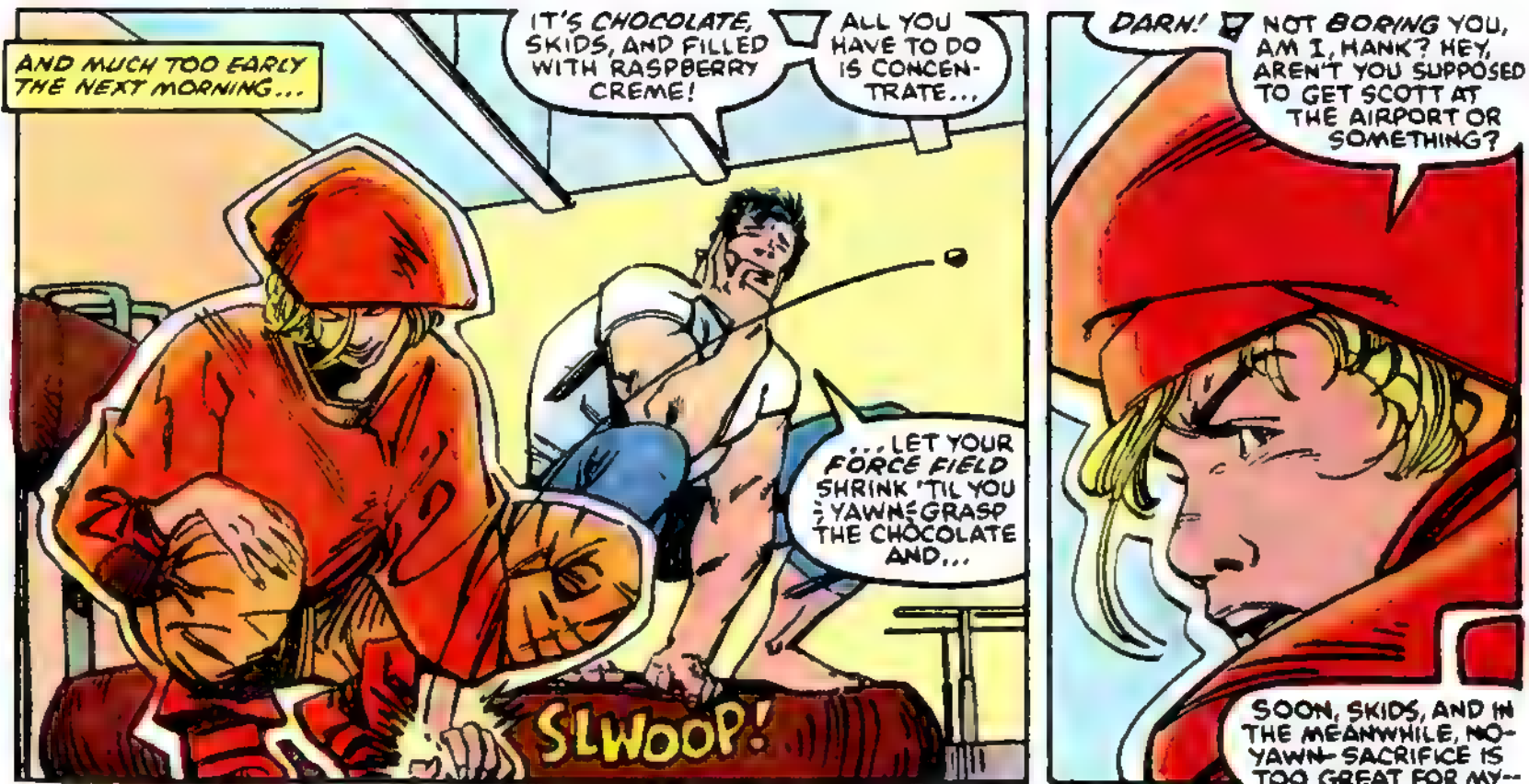
I JUST
WANNA GO
OFF SOMEWHERE
AND THINK--

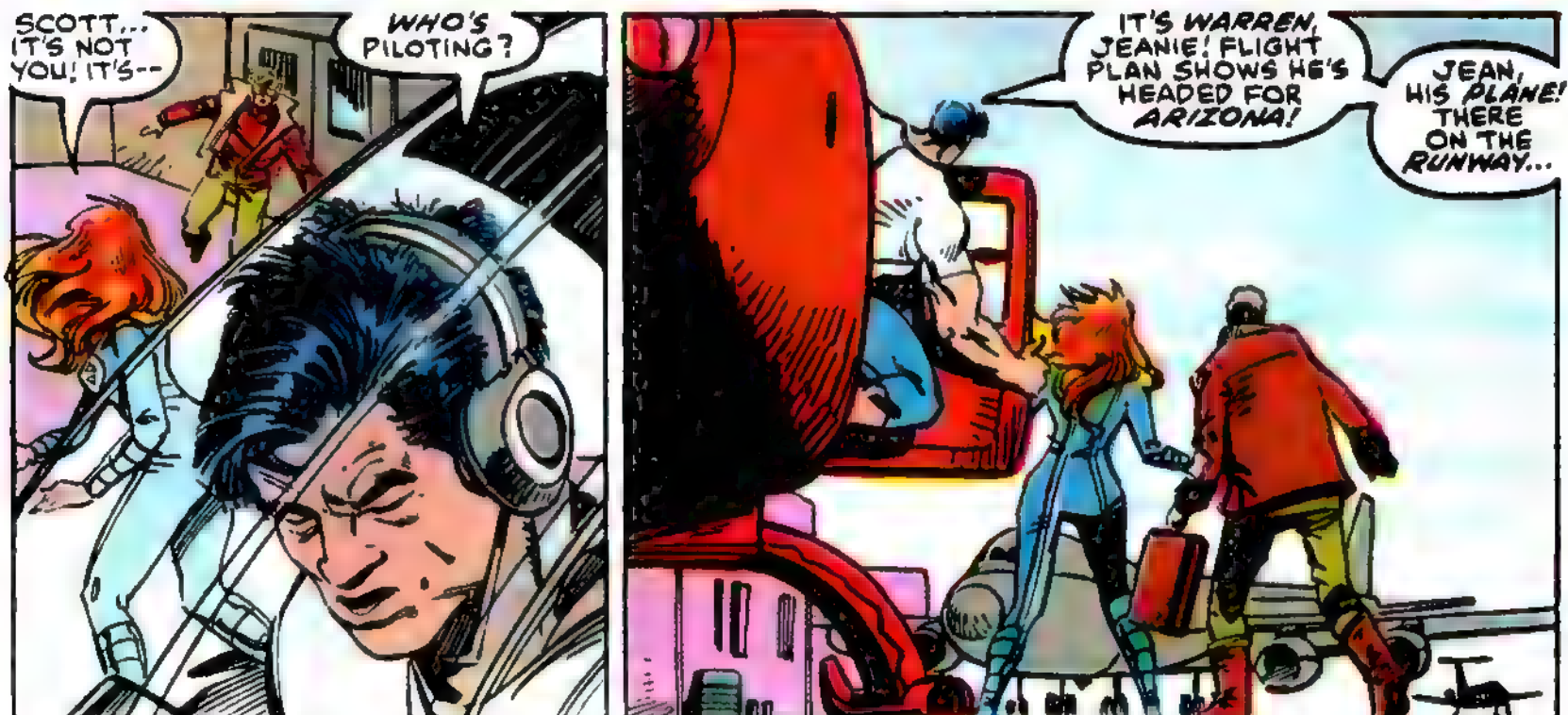
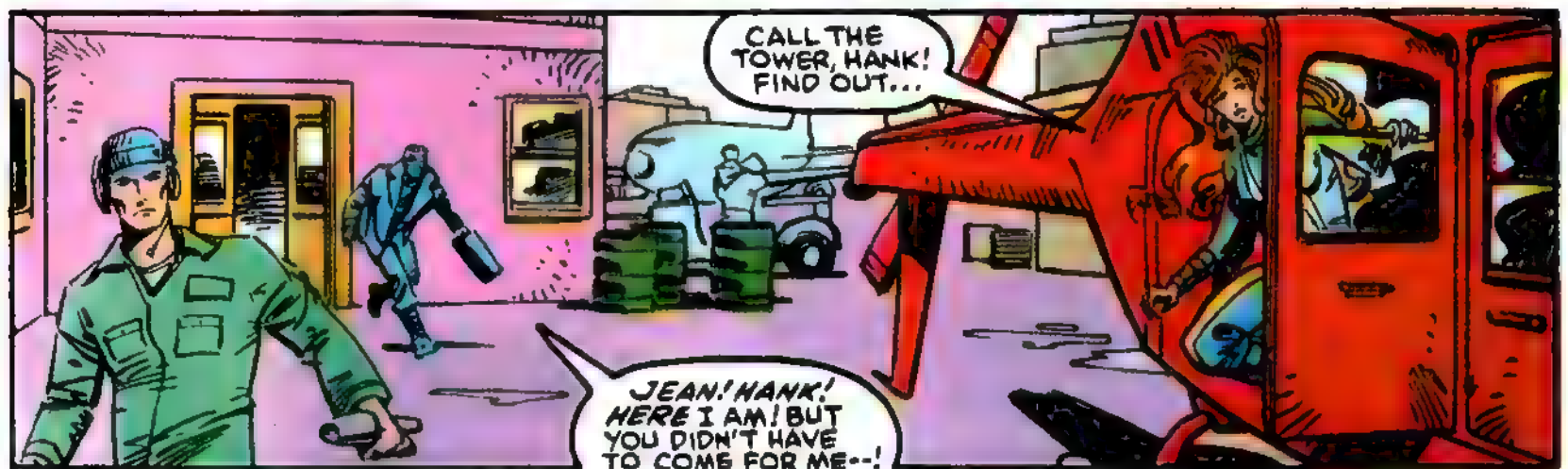
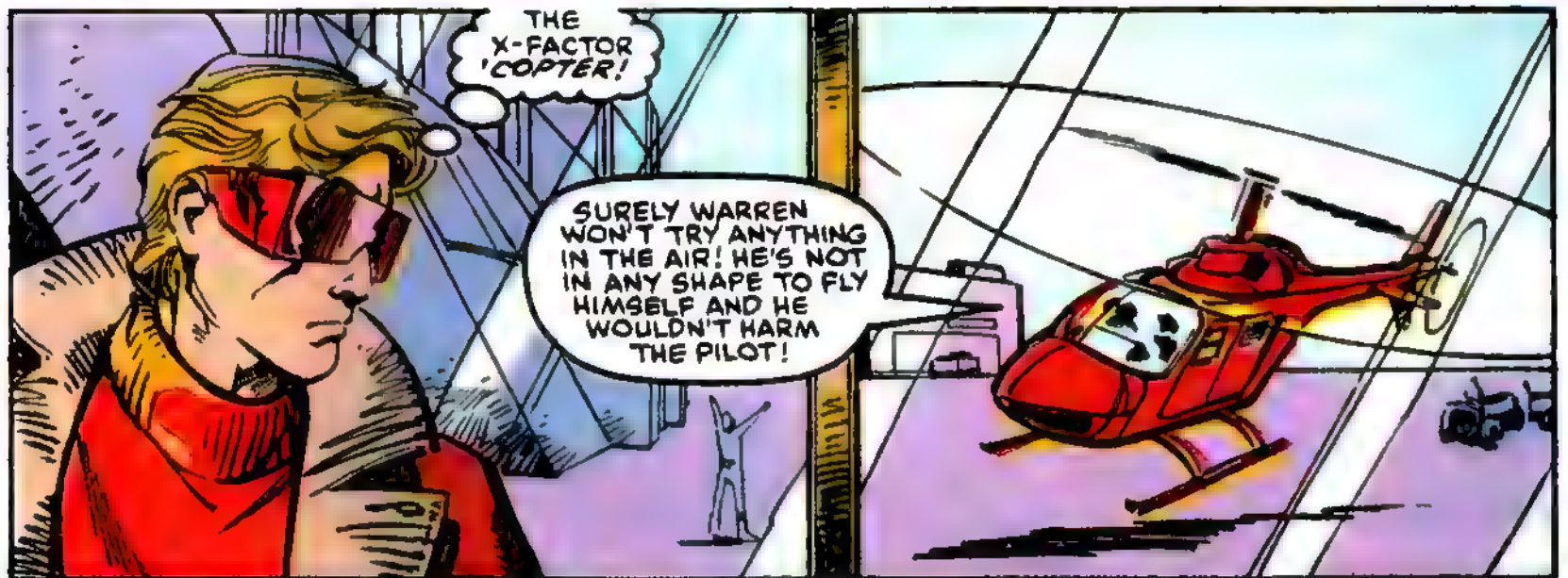
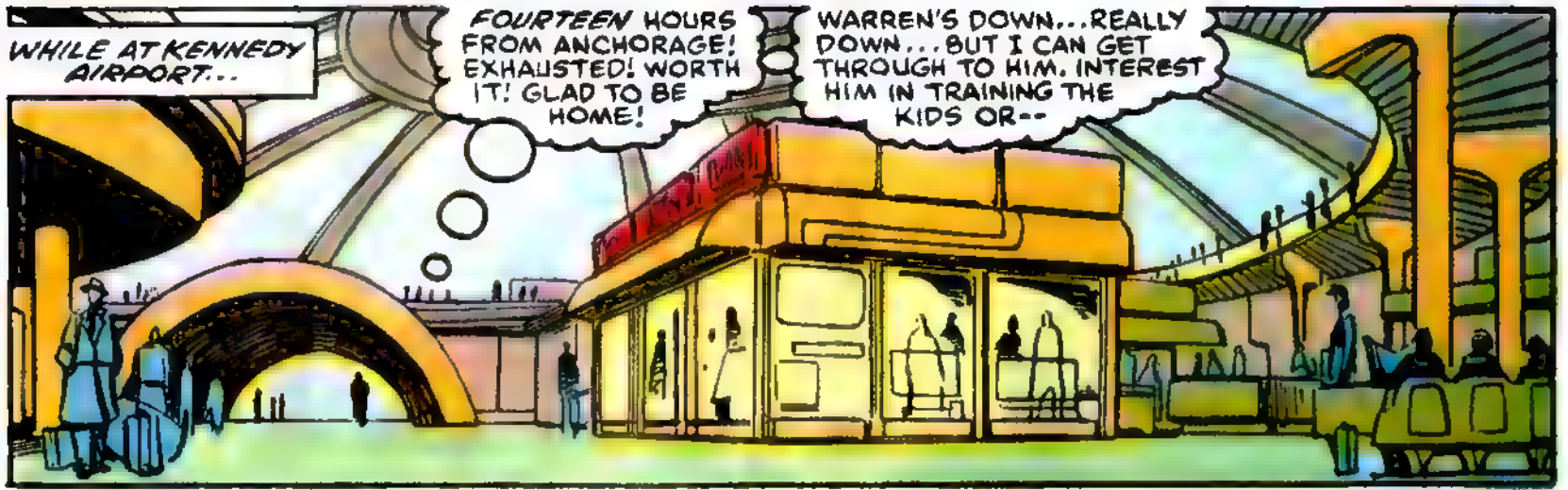
OH, COME ON,
BOBBY! IT'LL DO
YOU GOOD!



BOBBY? ♡ WOW! GONE ALREADY!
MAYBE A GUY THAT FAST
ON HIS FEET DOESN'T
NEED TO WORK OUT! ♡

* AND MAYBE YOU SHOULD CHECK OUT
THOR* 377! 'NUFF SAID! BOB





"...LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN CLEARED FOR TAKE-OFF!"

"RADIO HIM, HANK! HURRY...BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE..."

GOTTA GET AWAY! UP WHERE I CAN BREATHE...

BACK...PAIN... HARD TO SIT... TO THINK...!

THEY SLICED ME UP GOOD! CUT ME DOWN! JEAN...HANK...THEY LET THEM! I...I...LET THEM!

WINGS CRIPPLED ...NOT STRUCK DEAF OR BLIND! SO MANY HINTS ...FROM DOCTORS ...MEDIA!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN! TAKEN STEPS! ENDED IT BEFORE IT CAME TO THIS!

DONE IT DIFFERENT! CHANGED THE WORLD! NOT LET MYSELF BE TRAPPED LIKE SOME DUMB ANIMAL! IF ONLY I...WHAT--?

HADN'T FORMED X-FACTOR ...STAYED OUT OF THE TUNNELS...LET ARTIE DIE? WHAT?

WHAT WOULD I CHANGE?

I DON'T KNOW! MAYBE THE HUMANS DO HATE US... WANT US DEAD...WANT TO DESTROY US!

HURT... SO BAD... JUST NEED TO ...GET AWAY...!

HANK, HE'S TURNING OUT OVER THE OCEAN. SCOTT...

"...THAT'S NOT THE WAY TO ARIZONA!"

KRAKARWHOOM!

WARREN!

ANGEL!

NO!

HE... I
... MY
FAULT

... SHOULD
HAVE COME...
BEEN HERE...

... AND
NOW... NOW...

SCOTT...
DARLING,
HUSH...
IT'S NOT
YOUR
FAULT...

... REALLY
... IT'S
NOT YOUR
FAULT...

MORE TORTURE!
MORE GUILT!
MORE BETRAYAL
AS

SKIDS, RUSTY, BOOM-BOOM AND ARTIE FACE DEATH IN MORLOCK ALLEY!

"PLAYING WITH FIRE!"

IN 30
DAYS, THE
FUN 'N'
GAMES
BEGIN!

X-CHANGES

BOB HARRAS: editor - BOBBIE CHASE: assistant editor

MARVEL COMICS GROUP - 357 Park Avenue South - New York, New York - 10016
Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Louise,

X-FACTOR #11 was truly a great comic!

So this is what happens to Angel. It's quite a shocker, I must say. But he still has his mutant hearing, sight, resistance to wind, pressure, temperature, and strength, so he isn't totally helpless. Of course, I wouldn't have him go up against Galactus or anybody like that.

Well, it looks like X-Factor is gonna be kaput. How will they explain this one? Calling an ambulance to collect their mutant benefactor who's rather hurt.

I've never seen Caliban like this before! He's always seemed so timid. I hope the Marauders do get a taste of their own medicine.

It looks like Apocalypse is rounding up even more mutants for his Alliance of Evil Plague is now Pestilence and some dude named Abraham will be War. I can't wait until X-Factor or the X-Terminators meet them again.

Until Angel loses his . . . er, until Mr. T joins the X-Terminators, Make Mine Marvel Mutants!

Brian Kinney
4025 House Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Believe us, Brian, X-Factor will be meeting the Horsemen very soon . . . and, trust us, it'll be a battle no one will soon forget! Apocalypse is planning his revenge very carefully.

Dear Louise and Walter,

X-FACTOR #11 answered a lot of questions and gave us all a lot more worries. For some reason, Artie really hits a soft spot in your heart and it's great to see him make it through the killings. But poor Warren. This poor man, what's gonna happen next? Could it be that Warren will lose his soul to Mephisto in the upcoming Limited Series? If the rumors are true then this will be the most tragic storyline in Marvel Comics' history. I hope my thoughts are way off base and the Angel won't give up his soul to fly again.

Brian P. Daly
50 Rhode Island Drive
Jackson, NJ 08527

Your guess is closer than you might think, Brian. As you see this issue, the Angel has been removed from the picture, but another member of our team will be facing the Lord of the Netherworld in an upcoming issue of the MEPHISTO Limited Series. Watch for it soon!

Dear X-FACTOR Crew,

I have been following the Mutant Massacre from the beginning. All that death, destruction, and mayhem have brought tears of joy to my eyes and I love it! As for the Marauders, see for yourself . . .

Scalphunter—hes everything a villain should be and lots more.

Riptide—he's a fool. Good thing Colossus ached him.

Scrambler—he adds a nice touch to the team.

Arclight—she's a drag. Unoriginal.

Harpoon—he adds a touch of realism to the team.

Vertigo—all she does is get knocked out

She's the team's weak spot so get rid of her.

Blockbuster—as usual, the team's strongest member is a stupid clod.

Prism—too bad Marvel Girl ached him.

Sabretooth—that's all we need, another Wolverine.

Those are all the Marauders I know of.

In X-FACTOR #11, X-Factor was revealed as a band of mutants. So, have the team hold a press meeting and have them tell the truth in their own ways—lie. Have the Angel tell the reporters that X-Factor tries to cure a mutant of his powers. And have him tell the press that he was cured and the Beast, since he lost his fur, can say that X-Factor cured him, and he wants to help X-Factor in any way he can.

You're doing a fantastic job! Keep it up.

Josip Marinic
1224 E. 169th St.
Cleveland, OH 44110

The public is not yet aware that X-Factor is a group of mutants, Josip. All the media has learned is that Warren, whose mutant identity has been well-known for some time, has been financing the mutant hunters. This revelation has raised doubts . . . but only doubts.

Dear X-FACTOR,

You guys can't leave me hanging like this. Issue #12 takes second place as best cliff-hanger of the century, beaten only by X-FACTOR #10. You can't kill off Angel like this is some kind of prime-time soap opera. But then again, don't get ridiculous and say Jean had a bad dream, either.

Also, what is Apocalypse up to with these recruits of his? He'll prove to be a definite problem in the future, I think.

Boom-Boom is a cute and fun "tag-a-long" character for Bobby. What a couple!

Darrin Helsel
4202 Loma St.
Irvine, CA 92714

Only time will tell what Apocalypse is really up to, Darrin.

Dear X-Creators,

I was going to write to you and use a lot of three syllable words to tell you how good X-FACTOR #12 is, but praise like that is hollow. I will tell you why it was so good—

1) It was very dramatic. Cyclops flew off the handle at the doctor, and the Angel, while sweating profusely, vowed that he would die before losing his wings.

2) The comic relief. Leech's entrance to the kitchen caused spilled food all over Tar Baby and Ape.

3) Apocalypse appeared.

4) Iceman played an active part in the story. Iceman and Angel have taken a back seat to Cyclops, Marvel Girl and the Beast too often. It's good to see them in the spotlight.

5) Caliban came one step closer to joining X-Factor and that makes me very happy. He's always been my favorite Morlock. I think he is as much a hero as anyone and it will be good to see him get a chance to prove his worth.

Thanks for making my day and I hope Caliban is well received by the rest of the

X-Fans

Travis MacKinnon
Scarborough, Ontario, CANADA

Dear Louise,

X-FACTOR #12 was, well, sort of a welcome relief to all the horror that's been happening to mutants. The scenes with Boom-Boom, Hank, and Bobby were gut-busting funny and I do believe that Boom-Boom might just make a perfect lady-friend for Bobby. I can't say how much my heart cries out for Warren. Is it just me, or has Jean gotten better and better looking with each issue. Her beauty was missing from comics for such a long time, it's great to have her back.

I could tell Marc Silvestri and Bob Wlasek were trying to keep the feel of Walt's art in this issue and it was beautiful, but it's still not the same. I hope the Mighty Man of Thor returns soon.

Happy birthday, X-FACTOR. I hope year two is just as great as year one. Bye for now.

B.D.
(No Address Given)

Dear Warren,

You two-faced, dyed-in-the-wool, double-dealing jerk.

In what way does an adolescent glandular reaction to Jean outshine years—count them, years—of hard work and devotion from Candy? You think she was looking after your finances, stroking your ego, supporting your vigilante complex, and swallowing her own pain when you flew around on her, all this time, for the fun of it? And don't give me any garbage about this all being her idea. You never struggled. It was bloody convenient for you, wasn't it? Sure, you can throw away your money. Candy will make sure you'll always have some more. Sure, you can be gone for days at a time, weeks at a time, months at a time, even, without calling or writing or thinking of her. Candy'll be there when you get back.

Well, what if she's not?

What happens when things don't work out with Jean? And they won't, you know, because even if you get her, you never want what you've got, so you'll throw her away. What happens when you go back to the Aene and Candy's not there?

You'll be poor, that's what. You can't handle money, and you'll never find anyone else who can and will still allow you to play with it in the manner to which you have always been accustomed and resist the overwhelming temptation to embezzle from you. You would be so easy to embezzle from. I wouldn't blame Candy just now, if she took half your money and flew to Europe with it. Only a palimony suit would be legal—therefore, more her style—and a thousand times more excruciating for you. Once all the details about how incredibly callous you've treated her get into the papers and the women's magazines, there wouldn't be a self-respecting woman in the country who could look at you without spitting.

Grow up, can't you? If you aren't ever going to love Candy, at least tell her and let her get past the hurt, into the necessary anger, and over it. She's got better things to do with her life than hang around waiting for you if she's never going to get anything out of it.

You know, you're the first Marvel character I could identify by first name.

You slime
Peni Robinson
588 Trudell
San Antonio, TX 78213

Boy, bet you feel bad now, huh, Peni?

MINUTEMEN



STREET BOSS